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D-DAY ANNIVERSARY: Reporter Nick Ames
with veterans in Normandy. Search 'D-Day'

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Picture: IGOR KUPCO

PARK'S PINK PANTERS

Thousands of women united to raise funds for cancer research with a charity fun run in the county town on Sunday. The ladies made the most of sunny weather as they donned pink outfits to walk, jog or run around Mote Park in the Race for Life. They were joined by KOS Media's own team - which included Erica Jones, Jo Nicoll, Lucy Williams and Anna White - who all completed the course in less than an hour.

FULL STORY AND MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 4

BY ANNA WHITE

A FARMER has lost an entire crop of fruit after thieves made off with hundreds of rare apple trees during a late-night raid.

The gang entered Little Sheephurst Farm in Marden sometime between 7pm on Wednesday, last week, and 10.30am the following day and stole 330 apple trees.

Owner Ken Jenner was alerted to the theft when his son, Nigel, 38, discovered the trees missing from their orchard during his daily patrol of farm.

The stolen Ruben apple trees were planted in March and were being exclusively grown by Mid Kent Growers.

Mr Jenner, who lives near the farm, said: "The trees had just started to plant and they are rare for this area. You can't just go into a shop or nursery and buy them as they are not on release to the public yet."

The new variety had been imported from Italy and Holland and Mr Jenner had planned for the apples to be eventually sold to supermarkets. The trees are about 3ft to 4ft in height and worth £4.30 each, totalling a loss of about £1,420.

He said: "It's a huge loss. It's a whole year's worth of crop and we won't be able to plant again until next year. I've never heard anything like this happening before. I have heard



RARE CROP:
Ruben apple

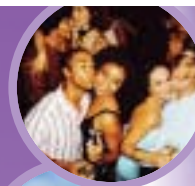
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2 See what our new-look Kent on Saturday has to offer you.
Find out by searching 'Saturday' at Yourkenttv.co.uk



3 How an exhibition of antique women's clothing is a big hit in Deal. Search 'museum' at Yourkenttv.co.uk

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MP signals her support over rail campaign

■ BY ANNA WHITE

BUSINESS leaders and MPs have joined hundreds of commuters in fighting to keep fast-track services from Maidstone to central London.

Southeastern chiefs announced plans to scrap off-peak fast trains from Ashford International to London Cannon Street earlier this year, as reported by Yourmaidstone.

In response, commuter Matthew Nash, who lives in Maidstone and relies on the off-peak service, launched the Keep Our Trains petition in April. This now has more than 700 signatures which have been gained through a website and campaigning – including talking to shoppers and handing out flyers in Fremlin Walk.

Supporters of the campaign include Maidstone town centre manager Bill Moss; the Towergate Partnership; Bearsted parish council, Maidstone council's railway champion, Liberal Democrat Cllr Malcolm Robertson; and Sir John Stanley, Conservative MP for Tonbridge and Malling.

Mr Nash has also gained support from Maidstone and Weald MP Ann Widdecombe and her potential successor, Helen Grant.

Mr Nash and his campaign partner, Huw Whitethread, from West Malling, have devised a strategy with Ms Widdecombe in a bid to block the plans.

He told Yourmaidstone: "We've met and agreed a strategy with Miss Widdecombe. She has been very supportive, honest and constructive.

"As a result of that meeting we've been trying to persuade people not only to sign our petition but also to write to their MP.

"This will give the MPs of the affected areas – Miss Widdecombe, Sir John



ON TRACK: Ann Widdecombe MP with Huw Whitethread (left) and Matthew Nash

and Hugh Robertson – the backing to challenge Lord Adonis, minister in charge of the Department for Transport, over the loss of these services."

Miss Widdecombe said: "I am delighted to offer my support to the campaign.

"There is a great demand for the hourly Cannon Street service and its abolition would effectively reduce the number of services to London from Maidstone by a third.

"Maidstone is the county town of Kent and deserves a fast and regular service to London.

"At a time when Southeastern is investing so much in the rail network, I am appalled that my constituents are those who lose out."

The campaign team has also met with Southeastern to discuss the issue and came away from the meeting with an indication the railway company could be persuaded to keep some of the services.

Mr Nash said: "The decision is not just Southeastern's, it is also the Department for Transport's.

"Hence, our best bet is focus on methods to persuade the Department for Transport."

To sign the online petition, log on to www.keepourtrains.com.

yourmaidstone NEWS IN BRIEF

Pie teams left with egg on their faces

A TEAM from Maidstone won the World Custard Pie Championship on Saturday.

The contest, at Coxheath Village Hall, attracted 16 teams, including from as far afield as Nottingham and Hemel Hempstead. But the visitors were left covered in custard by winner Coxheath Til I Pie.

Maidstone Independent councillor Mike Fitzgerald, who organises the annual event, said: "We had so many people come from across the country, so I couldn't believe it when the local team won. It is a free event and lots of people came along to enjoyed the fun."

TB risk contained by swift hospital action

NINETEEN patients have been offered screening after it emerged a healthcare worker at Maidstone Hospital has tuberculosis.

Hospital chiefs confirmed the worker had the disease but said he was making a good recovery.

Patients and staff who came into contact with him were offered the checks as a precaution.

Dr Sara Mumford, director of infection prevention and control, said: "Staff are being offered screening at the same time as patients. The risk to patients and staff is minimal."

Gold Beach veteran honoured by French

D-DAY veteran George Batts was honoured by the French government in Paris on Saturday for his role in helping liberating their country in 1944.

The 83-year-old from Maidstone was part of a group of nine men and a woman from Britain who all took part in the D-Day landings.

He received the Legion d'Honneur – France's highest military decoration – in a ceremony marking the 65th anniversary of D-Day.

Mr Batts was with the Royal Engineers who landed on Gold Beach during the Normandy invasion.

• More D-Day anniversary coverage on page 9




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Hidden depths to winner Rebecca's dark corners

EXCLUSIVE

BY ANNA WHITE

A FASCINATION with the unknown inspires a photography student to climb hundreds of feet through dark underground spaces to capture unique shots.

Yourmaidstone last week revealed that Rebecca Crosbie had been named the winner of StARTle 2009 – an art competition celebrating the first anniversary of the Hazlitt Arts Centre.

As the winner of the competition, launched by Maidstone council and supported by Yourmaidstone, Miss Crosbie won a free four-week exhibition in the Graham Clarke gallery, within the centre in Earl Street.

Miss Crosbie was picked from 34 entries after her images of disused buildings and derelict sites impressed the judges.

She first realised her love of photography as a pupil at Maidstone Girls' Grammar School and continued with the subject at the University for the Creative Arts, Maidstone, where she is studying a MA in photography.

She stumbled across her passion for capturing shots of caves, mines and nuclear bunkers while working in town centre bar Drakes and a fellow photographer, Jon Barker, told her about a Kent-based underground photography group.

Miss Crosbie said: "It's a group of people who travel everywhere to visit disused mines and old hospitals and I started going along with them."

"A lot of them do it for their love of history and finding out the unknown. I love doing it because



IN THE FRAME: StARTle 2009 winner Rebecca Crosbie, top, with two of the photographs in her Hazlitt exhibition

of those reasons but mainly because I love photography and I am more interested in taking pictures of the places."

The 22-year-old says she doesn't mind delving into the darkness with her camera, spotlight and hardhat, but admits to the odd occasion when nerves have almost got the better of her.

She said: "Jon is usually with me, partly for health and safety reasons. We are usually given specifications of the site, but there was one time in Wales when the details were wrong."

"It said this mine was was 20 feet deep, but it was more like 200ft. It's a bit unnerving to not

know your surroundings."

Miss Crosbie, who lives near the Oakwood Park campus, has not exhibited outside of UCA before.

She said: "I was shocked when I found out I had won the competition. It's been such a mad time as I have just finished my final work for my third year and now I am exhibiting here. It's really exciting and I'm really pleased."

A selection of her work taken from her collections, Poetic Spaces, and Subterranean, is now on display at the gallery until June 31. Opening times are 10am to 6pm.

It's party time at the Village Hotel this weekend

FAMILIES have been invited to join in celebrations marking a Maidstone hotel's fifth birthday.

The Village Hotel anniversary events start on Friday with a comedy night, continuing on Saturday with a bungee-run, tombola, stalls, sports challenges and demonstrations in the gym.

There will also be live entertainment from dance acts, including Britain's Got Talent semi-finalists Hot Honeyz and the Mandy Ellen Girl Band, both from the Mandy Ellen School of Dance.

There will also be afternoon tea to raise funds for Cancer Research and a raffle with the proceeds going to Help For Heroes.

The Village Hotel is supporting ex-soldier Lee Horton in his challenge to climb Kilimanjaro in October and raise money for the charity.

Presentation

The hotel hosted a gala dinner for Mr Horton's climb last month and raised £8,185.18. This will be presented to him on Saturday.

A cheque will also be presented to Maidstone Rugby Club, which the hotel is sponsoring this year.

In the afternoon there will be a barbecue and beer tent, as well as more entertainment.

Rounding off the celebrations will be music from tribute act Justin Timberlike, dinner and a disco.

General manager Veronica Kingham said: "It's the perfect way to celebrate the landmark and to celebrate what the hotel has achieved. There's going to be something for everyone."

Tickets for the Friday night comedy show are £10, and tickets for the Justin Timberlike tribute dinner are £26.95 per person, or £23.95 for club members.

Rare crop lost in farm raid

FROM FRONT PAGE

of tree stealing in the winter, when they are in bundles, but not a crop."

Police are investigating but Mr Jenner is doubtful if the trees will survive.

He said: "I'm not sure they would, unless the thieves are very clever and get the water right, but even if I get them back I don't know if I would be able to save them."

Mr Jenner has already been approached by another farmer who thinks he may have seen the culprits.

Mr Jenner said: "The farmer said he saw a group of people, with two yellow vans and one white van, hanging round on Wednesday afternoon."

"We have had visits from EDF lately, putting up new phone masts, so he thought they were from that company, but it looks like they may be the culprits."

The thieves would have needed a vehicle to transport the trees. Mr Jenner believes they would have needed a type of truck or large Transit-type van.

Police are asking anyone who may have been offered apple trees, or who has any information about the raid, to contact the mid-Kent crime unit on 01795 4191842 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Cannabis found at crash pilot's home

THE pilot of a light plane which crashed carrying a prisoner on day release was a convicted drug smuggler.

When police checked Sidney Clark's home in Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, after the plane piled into an orchard near Lyminge, they found 400 cannabis plants.

While Clark was awaiting trial at Maidstone Crown Court he skipped bail and when police tracked him down to a house in Shepton Mallet, Somerset, they found he was growing more plants.

During a hearing at Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, Clark, 59, described himself to detectives as a professional cannabis grower who earned £25,000 a year from it.

He rented the cottage in Shepton Mallet under a false name and diverted electricity to grow the plants.

Clark told detectives he expected to grow 60 ounces a crop, retailing at £100 an ounce.

He said he sold the cannabis to ten to 12 friends and had earned £150,000 in the last six years.

Clark has been jailed in Iran, Japan, and Bangkok, Thailand, for drug smuggling and freely admitted



GROWING DOPE: Clark after the crash

to smoking dope for the last 44 years. He said he got his income from growing cannabis and had never claimed benefits in his life.

Clark has admitted to cultivating drugs at his home in Maidstone and in Shepton Mallet, as well as abstracting electricity to propagate the plants.

The case was adjourned until June 29. Clark was remanded in custody.

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yourmaidstone NEWS IN BRIEF

Jobless man tries to sell himself into work on eBay

AN UNEMPLOYED man has resorted to alternative ways to get a job by trying to sell himself in an online classified section.

Andy Palmer, 30, from Maidstone, is a qualified mortgage advisor but was left without a job when his former employer Northern Rock collapsed in August last year.

He has posted his CV on popular online auction site eBay with the hope that employers will bid to buy or rent his services for a month.

Something smells bunny as rabbit trap is stolen

A TRAP used to catch plant-eating rabbits at a Maidstone industrial park has been stolen.

The rabbit trap was dug up and removed from the ground near a mobile telephone mast in Eclipse Industrial Park, in Sittingbourne Road, between 9pm on May 26 and 7.45pm the following day.

It would have taken about half an hour to unearth and a vehicle may have been used to transport it from the industrial park.

New bins mean there is no excuse not to recycle

FAMILIES in Maidstone are no able to recycle from their own doorsteps thanks to a council-run scheme.

Maidstone council has completed the final stage of a scheme to provide 64,000 properties in the county town with a recycling bin.

The council has delivered the bins and information packs to the final 35,000 properties in the borough.

• For further information visit www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk or call 01622 602162.

TV chef in visit to help you brush up your 'barby' skills

A GARDEN centre is teaming up with Britain's Best BBQ chef to give your sausages some extra sizzle during the summer.

TV Chef Ben Bartlett, who has appeared on Ready, Steady Cook and This Morning, has joined forces with Notcutts Garden Centre in to help people master their barbecues.

He will be at the Maidstone-based garden centre, just off the M20 at junction 7, on Sunday to give a live demonstration and host a question-and-answer session.

Thousands unite in pink for fun run to raise funds for Cancer Research UK

■ BY ANNA WHITE

THOUSANDS of women dressed in their finest pink outfits on Sunday to take part in the second Race for Life at Mote Park.

More than 4,000 mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and daughters were cheered on by thousands of supporters as they ran, jogged and walked the second Maidstone Race for Life at the town centre park.

Both of the Maidstone events were fully booked and saw more than 8,000 women complete the 5k course and help raise £287,000 for Cancer Research UK.

Natasha Etienne, area event manager, said: "I was so pleased to see the sun shining on the ladies for the event, we all had a great day. I love Maidstone and hope to see everyone again next year."

Unlike the first Maidstone event in May, which was greeted with torrential rain, the women at the latest event enjoyed the summertime weather.

Atmosphere

Among the thousands of participants on Sunday were KOS Media's own team, which included Erica Jones, Jo Nicoll, Lucy Williams and Anna White – who all completed the course in less than an hour.

Mrs Nicoll, personal assistant to KOS Media's managing director, said: "This was my first time doing the Race for Life and I absolutely loved it, although I didn't actually realise I was quite so competitive."

"The atmosphere was great and the number of women taking part was quite overwhelming. "Everyone who took part should be extremely proud of themselves for doing something so worthwhile, especially the KOS girls who put in a fine performance."

• Together the KOS Media team has raised more than £330 but people can still donate to the team and help them hit their £500 target by visiting www.raceforlife.sponsorsoreme.org/kosmedia.

A great day for the race

Pictures: Igor Kipuro



IN THE PINK: Mums, daughters and grandmothers united en-masse to take part in the Maidstone Race for Life at Mote Park in aid of Cancer Research UK



STERLING EFFORT: KOS Media's team (l-r) Jo Nicholl, Lucy Williams, Anna White and Erica Jones raised more than £330 with their Maidstone Race For Life effort



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Tories tighten their grip on county town

THE Tories increased the number of Maidstone and Malling seats they hold at County Hall in the council council elections.

They retained their seats in the Maidstone area and gained an extra seat in Malling. They held on to four of their previous Maidstone districts, lost a Maidstone Central seat, but gained Maidstone South East.

This leaves them with five of the eight Maidstone seats at County Hall, with the Liberal Democrats taking the other three – a gain of one.

Maidstone Central, which had the most candidates, was previously shared between Lib Dem councillor Dan Daley and Tory councillor Jeffrey Curwood.

Cllr Daley kept his seat with 4,465 votes but Cllr Curwood lost out to Lib Dem councillor Malcolm Robertson, with 3,479.

Cllr Daley said: "This is a great achievement. Having a more equal split is better for democracy and I think the Conservatives understand that and even welcome it."

The Lib Dems also held on to Ian Chittenden's seat in Maidstone North East.

Cllr Chittenden told Yourmaidstone: "I am delighted; it was once thought it was going to be fairly close, but I have doubled the Tories' vote."

Lib Dem parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and Weald Peter Carroll was at Detling Showground, where the count was carried out, to congratulate the Lib Dems.

He said: "I came here today to see the Liberal Democrats take the two Maidstone

■ BY ANNA WHITE

Central seats and it is tremendous victory."

Lib Dem group leader Trudy Dean also retained her Malling Central seat, but David Lettington failed to keep the Malling Rural North seat, which had been held by retiring Lib Dem councillor Geoff Rowe. This seat went to Conservative candidate Peter Homewood. The Tories held the other three Malling seats.

The Tories sealed their overall victory with an expected win for KCC leader Paul Carter, who held on to the Maidstone Rural North seat with 3,078 votes out of the total 5,313.

He said: "It is great day for the Conservatives."

Another prominent seat for the Conservatives was Maidstone Rural East, which was previously occupied by the late Sandy Bruce-Lockhart.

First-time candidate Jenny Whittle, the youngest of all the 41 candidates at 32 years old, secured Mr Bruce-Lockhart's former seat by a landslide 3,963 votes.

She said: "I am delighted and I intend to make my voice heard at County Hall."

Tory Parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and Weald Helen Grant said: "I am very happy with Conservative victory."

"Many of the papers have said Labour is falling and this is now being shown at not just a national level but locally as well."

Candidates for Labour, Green Party, National Front, UKIP, Independent, and Labour and Co-Operative failed to gain any Maidstone seats.



GREAT VICTORY: Parliamentary candidate Helen Grant and KCC leader Paul Carter applaud the results

Labour's disaster sealed in Europe

LABOUR'S failure to win any extra European seats for south-east England contributed to the party's disastrous set of election results.

The Conservatives were first in the region with 812,288 votes, UK Independence Party (UKIP) were second with 440,002, Liberal Democrats third with 330,340, the Green Party fourth with 192,592 votes and Labour fifth.

Labour's share of the vote was down 5.4 per cent and the Green Party was up 3.8 per cent.

Peter Skinner remains the region's only Labour MEP. The Conservatives retained their four seats, UKIP kept its two, Lib Dems have two and the Green Party retained its one.

Conservatives Daniel Hannan, Nirj Deva, James Elles and Richard Ashworth will all represent the South East in Europe.

UKIP leader Nigel Farage kept his seat and will be joined by party treasurer Marta Andreasen, who replaces the outgoing independent Ashley Mote, who was elected as a UKIP member but had his whip removed in 2007 after being found guilty of benefit fraud.

Caroline Lucas remains the Green Party's European representative for the South East.

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The full results for Maidstone

Maidstone Central (Two seats - Liberal Democrat hold + Conservative loss)

Dan Daley (Lib Dem) - 4,465,
Malcolm Robertson (Lib Dem) - 3,479,
Jeffrey Curwood (Con) - 2,507,
Paul Butcher (Con) - 2,476,
John Stanford (UKIP) - 1,274,
Stuart Jeffrey (Green) - 908,
Wendy Lewis (Green) - 761,
Bruce Heald (Labour) - 603,
Marianna Poliszczuk (Labour) - 568.
Voting turnout - 41.06 per cent of the electorate.

Maidstone Rural East (Conservative hold)

Jenny Whittle (Con) - 2,963,
David Naghi (Lib Dem) - 925,
Steve Gibson (Lab) - 479.
Voting turnout - 41.76 per cent.

Maidstone North East (Liberal Democrat hold)

Ian Chittenden (Lib Dem) - 2,306,
Jeff Tree (Con) - 1,159,
Charles Elliot (UKIP) - 656,
Derek Eagle (Green) - 260.
Voting turnout - 35.5 per cent.

Maidstone Rural North (Conservative hold)

Paul Carter (Con) - 3,078,
Gareth Kendall (UKIP) - 818,
Kenneth Stevens (Lib Dem) - 618,
Jeanne Gibson (Lab) - 397,
Ian McDonald (Green) - 352.
Voting turnout - 38 per cent.

Maidstone South - (Conservative hold)

Alan Chell (Con) - 1,897,

Clive English (Lib Dem) - 1,222,
Richard Coates (Lab + Co-operative) - 341,
Stephen Mugeridge (Green) - 305,
Sheena Williams (Ind) - 282,
Gary Butler - 231.
Voting turnout - 34.86 per cent.

Maidstone South East - (Conservative gain)

Seat previously held by Independent councillor Brian Wood who did not stand for re-election.
Gary Cooke (Con) - 1,297,
John Botting (UKIP) - 577,
Gillian Annan (Labour) - 452,
Rob Field (Lib Dem) - 422,
Alex Waldie (Green) - 159,
Jon Hick (Ind) - 90.
Voting turnout - 27.75 per cent.

Maidstone Rural West - (Conservative hold).

Paulina Stockell (Con) - 2,559,
Brian Mortimer (Lib Dem) - 1,467,
Keith Woolven (UKIP) - 825,
Sandra McDowell (Green) - 397,
Edith Davis (Lab + Co-operative) - 300.
Voting turnout - 41.59 per cent.

Maidstone Rural South - (Conservative hold).

Eric Holson (Con) - 2,595,
Hugh Laing (Lib Dem) - 1,027,
Robin Kinnade (Green) - 554.
Voting turnout - 39.47 per cent.

Malling North (Conservative hold)

Sarah Hohler (Con) - 2,253,
Paul Hickmott (Lab) - 1,008,
Elizabeth Simpson (Lib Dem) - 505,
Lisa Rogers (English Democrats) - 432,

Howard Porter (Green) - 361.
Voting turnout - 36.94 per cent.

Malling West (Conservative hold)

Valerie Dagger (Con) - 3,126,
James Menzies (Lib Dem) - 682,
Richard Mountford (Green) - 475,
Laurence Williams (English Democrats) - 442,
Victoria Hayman (Lab) - 323.
Voting turnout - 42.61 per cent.

Malling Central (Liberal Democrat hold)

Trudy Dean (Lib Dem) - 2,486,
Alice Hohler (Con) - 1,122,
Peter Stevens (UKIP) - 444,
David Laverly (Lab) - 157,
Helen Long (Green) - 114,
Teresa Cannon (English Democrats) - 95.
Voting turnout - 37.48 per cent.

Malling Rural East (Conservative hold)

Richard Long (Con) - 2,671,
David Waller (UKIP) - 609,
Gillian Jones (Lib Dem) - 550,
Mary Long (Green) - 350,
Kathleen Garlick (Lab) - 258,
Alan Woodley (English Democrats) - 194.
Voting turnout - 37.96 per cent.

Malling Rural North East (Liberal Democrat loss)

Peter Homewood (Con) - 3,254,
David Lettington (Lib Dem) - 1,254,
Terry Bilsland (English Democrats) - 434,
Thomas Shelley (Lab) - 396,
Andrea Ralph (Green) - 357.
Voting turnout - 40.65 per cent.

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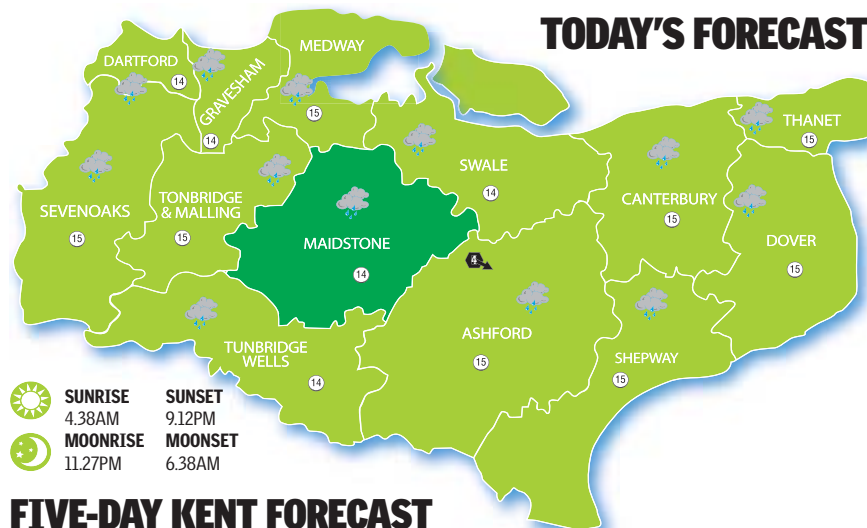


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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

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|-------------------|----------|--------|------|
| Chatham | Saturday | 4:52pm | 5.4m |
| | Sunday | 5:32pm | 5.3m |
| Dover | Saturday | 3:23pm | 6.0m |
| | Sunday | 4:03pm | 5.9m |
| Dungeness | Saturday | 3:10pm | 6.8m |
| | Sunday | 3:51pm | 6.7m |
| Ramsgate | Saturday | 3:53pm | 4.6m |
| | Sunday | 4:33pm | 4.5m |
| Sheerness | Saturday | 4:42pm | 5.2m |
| | Sunday | 5:21pm | 5.1m |
| Whitstable | Saturday | 4:42pm | 4.9m |
| | Sunday | 5:19pm | 4.8m |

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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|------------|------|------------|------|
| Amsterdam | 17°C | Madrid | 19°C |
| Athens | 30°C | New York | 25°C |
| Barcelona | 22°C | Paris | 13°C |
| Beijing | 19°C | Rome | 24°C |
| Bombay | 32°C | Sydney | 19°C |
| Cape Town | 19°C | Tenerife | 22°C |
| Cardiff | 14°C | Tokyo | 19°C |
| Gibraltar | 22°C | Vancouver | 20°C |
| Hong Kong | 30°C | Warsaw | 22°C |
| Las Palmas | 24°C | Wellington | 9°C |

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| | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon | | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Ashford | 16°C | 16°C | 17°C | 18°C | 19°C | Gravesend | 17°C | 17°C | 18°C | 18°C | 20°C |
| Canterbury | 16°C | 17°C | 17°C | 18°C | 20°C | Maidstone | 17°C | 17°C | 17°C | 18°C | 20°C |
| Chatham | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 19°C | Ramsgate | 16°C | 17°C | 17°C | 18°C | 20°C |
| Dartford | 17°C | 17°C | 18°C | 18°C | 20°C | Rochester | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 19°C |
| Dover | 15°C | 15°C | 16°C | 16°C | 18°C | Sevenoaks | 15°C | 15°C | 16°C | 17°C | 19°C |
| Faversham | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 19°C | Sittingbourne | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 19°C |
| Folkestone | 15°C | 15°C | 16°C | 16°C | 18°C | Tonbridge | 16°C | 16°C | 17°C | 18°C | 20°C |
| Gillingham | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 16°C | 19°C | Tun Wells | 16°C | 16°C | 17°C | 18°C | 20°C |



SUMMER SHOW: Peter Carroll presents the Mildred Ratcliffe prize for best exhibit to Janet McConnell

Candidate 'thrilled' to present art prizes

LIBERAL Democrat candidate Peter Carroll presented two art awards at an event in Maidstone.

The Lib Dem parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and Weald, who is also a leading Gurkha rights campaigner, was contacted by the Maidstone Arts Society to hand out the prizes for its summer show on Friday evening.

Mr Carroll presented the David Booth prize, for best entry in the life painting and portrait category, to Joan Boatwright, and the Mildred Ratcliffe Prize, for best exhibit in the show, to Janet McConnell.

Mr Carroll said: "I was really thrilled to be asked to present the prize and somewhat relieved that I didn't have what I imagine had been the almost impossible job of judging the winners."

"I envy anyone who has the ability to express themselves so well in any art form."

The winning works will be on display in the exhibition space above Maidstone Library in St Faith's Street until June 27.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

LISA SKINNER



Q Tell us about yourself.

A I am co-owner with my business partner Loretta Walpole of Pregalicious Maternity Wear in the Royal Star Arcade, Maidstone. I live in Maidstone with my husband and two small children.

Q Tell us about the Pregalicious Store.

A Pregalicious is designed for the expectant mum, and stocks a great range of fashionable affordable styles to celebrate the changing shape of pregnancy. The shop has a spacious feel, with a small area to keep children amused while customers shop, and a comfortable sofa where mums can nurse babies. The shop offers casual wear, work wear swimwear, nursing wear, occasional wear and attractive and comfortable underwear. All have been handpicked from professional maternity designers all over the world. Recently we have introduced many new baby products, which are great for the increasingly-popular baby showers. Pregnancy is an amazing time and we want our customers to feel delicious yet comfortable and stylish.

Q What was the inspiration behind opening such a store?

A During my first pregnancy I found it hard to find local shops which sold fashionable, stylish affordable maternity wear which would last throughout my pregnancy. The few

shops that I did find only seemed to sell basic everyday wear – nothing for a special occasion or wedding. Although there were an abundance of online maternity shops, nothing I ordered would fit properly or looked like it had looked online. During a conversation with my friend Loretta I discovered that she had had the same problem when she was pregnant, so we teamed up and opened Pregalicious in December 2005.

Q Why do you think Maidstone needs a store like Pregalicious?

A We stock the largest range of maternity and nursing wear in north Kent. Having both been pregnant we can understand the growing stages of pregnancy and can advise ladies on the buying of maternity and nursing wear and underwear. We also stock a great range of bras and underwear and offer a free measuring and fitting service for both maternity and nursing bras. During the past three years we have listened to our customer's requests and suggestions and have grown our business by listening to them.

Q Tell us about the inspiration behind the in-store breastfeeding couch?

A My son was three weeks old when we opened our shop on the upper floor of the Royal Star Arcade and being a breastfeeding mum I realised how hard it was to go shopping in Maidstone with a newborn and to find places where I could sit and nurse him in com-

fort. With a young baby needing two- to three-hourly feeds, a shopping trip could become quite a chore and quite expensive with frequent stops in coffee shops, so once the shop was open I would pop into Pregalicious to feed him there if I was out shopping. Loretta and I decided that we should open the couch to any nursing mum who was out shopping and needed to feed her baby.

Q Has it proved popular with Maidstone mums?

A Oh yes – not just with Maidstone mums but with any mums shopping in Maidstone. It is lovely to see customers who came in for maternity wear pop in with their new babies – we get to see bump then baby. We have some regulars who have been using our couch to nurse their babies from newborn to toddler, so we get to see the babies grow too.

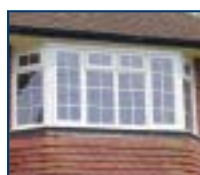
Q Why do you feel so strongly on the topic?

A Prior to having children, breastfeeding was not really a subject I had taken any interest in. However, having had my son and later my daughter and the natural bond I felt breastfeeding (although I struggled for the first few weeks as any new mum does), I found once the feeding was established it was a wonderful experience. Breastfeeding is great for both mum's and baby's well-being, there was no having to sterilise bottles or warm the milk, and it is free.

Q&A

Reporter **Anna White** spoke to mother-of-two Lisa Skinner, who runs Pregalicious Maternity Wear in the town centre, about the shop and how she feels it is important to encourage new mothers to breastfeed

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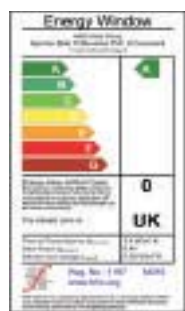
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D-Day 65th anniversary.
Nick Ames joins veterans in Normandy. Search 'D-Day'



American family travel 5,000 miles to buy an old Citroën 2CV from Ebay. Search '2CV'



Ebony Johnson, 21, sings Aerosmith's 'I Don't Want to Miss a Thing.' Search 'Ebony'



See the first cabbies in Kent to gain NVQs for their job. Search 'cabbies'



Port Lympne and Howlett's parks celebrate some rare births. Search 'Lympne'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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'We owe you our freedom'

FOR probably the last time they assembled on the beaches.

The heroes of Normandy, 1944, who stormed the German positions and liberated France from the yoke of Nazi oppression.

At the weekend the dignitaries all assembled – US President Barack Obama, Prince Charles representing the Royal Family and Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

But the day truly belonged to those veterans who took part in the momentous events of 65 years ago – and for all too many of them they realised it was the last time they would all be back together.

Bearing the British standards on the beach at Arromanches were members of the Ramsgate Branch of the Royal Naval Association and the Deal Branch of the Royal Marines Association.

"It was lucky we brought our standards," said Ramsgate chairman Ron Williams. "Otherwise we British would have been a bit under-represented."

The group had met early on Saturday morning at various spots in Kent before making the arduous journey to Normandy by coach.

All service veterans, they had come to pay their respects to the fallen at a parade alongside the beach which was taken by British troops on the day itself.

Tom Thaxter of the Royal Scots Fusiliers remembers the events of 65 years ago.

"I left 173 of my friends buried here," he said. "It's an emotional occasion – probably the last one of its kind with so many of us passing away each year. I was wounded in the left leg, just after we landed, the right leg outside Berlin, and the eye in Palestine. But so many of my friends didn't make it at all."

Charles Giles, from Margate, is president of the local naval association.

He said: "It's true there are fewer and fewer of us. I was on a destroyer working on charts off the beaches and I saw them go in. I have admired their bravery ever since."

A few miles away, US President Barack Obama spoke at Omaha Beach, where the Americans landed.

NICK AMES reports from the 65th anniversary celebrations of D-Day, held in Normandy, where war veterans were joined by world leaders to remember the day the liberation of Europe began



STANDARD BEARERS: Members of the Ramsgate Branch of the Royal Naval Association and the Deal Branch of the Royal Marines Association at Arromanches beach

He said the bravery and selflessness of a few changed the course of a whole century.

The Allies suffered 215,000 casualties on D-Day and in the Normandy campaign. Germany suffered similar losses as the Allies fought desperately up the beaches and in to the French countryside to form a bridgehead.

Speaking at the US war cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, Mr Obama said it was the sheer improbability of the D-Day victory that had made it so memorable.

He said: "Friends and veterans, what we cannot forget – what we must not forget – is that D-Day was a time and a place where the

bravery and selflessness of a few was able to change the course of an entire century.

"At an hour of maximum danger, amid the bleakest of circumstances, men who thought themselves ordinary found it within themselves to do the extraordinary."

Speaking before Mr Obama, French President Nicolas Sarkozy thanked the Allies for their efforts in liberating France and the rest of Western Europe.

"I want to say thank you to the survivors of this tragedy who are here today with us... we owe you our freedom," he said.

Mr Brown was booed by a small group in the



WREATH: Prince Charles paid respects at Bayeux Cathedral

waiting crowd and one person shouted: "Where's the Queen?"

But he got a laugh from some members of the audience when he referred to Omaha Beach as "Obama Beach".

The French government previously denied it had intended to snub the Royal Family after failing to invite the Queen to the commemorations, with Prince Charles travelling to France after a last-minute invitation.

Mr Brown gave a speech in which he praised "men of courage and bravery".

UK Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir Richard Dannatt, told the veterans: "I know that I speak on behalf of all soldiers, all over the world, when I salute the focus, determination and professionalism of all of you and your comrades who stormed into northern France from the air and from the sea in June 1944."

Earlier, Mr Brown and the prince laid wreaths inside Bayeux Cathedral during a service organised by the Royal British Legion.

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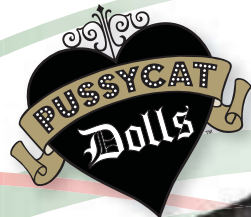
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HMV Stores: All stores in Kent & Lakeside.



A feast for the eyes

IT IS often said good food can be a work of art. And now a contest has been launched to underline that very point.

Unveiled at the weekend by the champion of regionally produced food and drink – Produced in Kent – school children in primary schools across the county are being asked to take part in a major art competition. And the aim? To create a Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece. The competition is open to all primary school children from reception classes through to Year 6 and entrants are challenged to create their Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece out of real seasonal, regional fruit and vegetables and photograph it. Alternatively they can make a fruit and veg collage using recycled materials and household waste, or children can simply paint or draw their masterpiece. The picture can depict any subject from a smiley face, through to a landscape, or still life.

The crucial ingredient in all the artworks being produced is that they all focus on the delicious range of fresh locally produced food and drink in our county. It coincides with our 2009 KOS Media campaign urging our readers to buy locally produced or supplied food and drink wherever possible.

Supported by Produced in Kent – and spearheaded by our one-stop shop for all your local food and drink shopping needs, www.foodforkent.co.uk – the campaign is designed to cut down on unnecessary food miles, support our local rural communities and protect traditional industries. All in addition to the unbeatable taste and health benefits of local, fresh food. Now it is hoped this competition will help hammer home the message to youngsters about the benefits of eating seasonal, local, produce.

Julie Monkman, manager of Produced in Kent explains: "This competition is a really fun and creative way to engage children in Kent with regionally and seasonally grown fruit and vegetables. The message about healthy eating and eating your 'five-a-day' has really started to filter through to families and increasingly both parents and children want to reduce their carbon footprint. By buying and using locally grown fruit and veg that is in season, families will not only be consuming

Youngsters are invited to draw upon their knowledge of seasonal Kent foods to create a Summer Fruit & Veg Masterpiece

healthier, fresher and more nutritious food, they will be helping to keep our county and the planet greener."

The countywide contest will see 10 lucky children, who submit the best piece of art, awarded a fabulous range of prizes worth hundreds of pounds, while the overall winner will be presented with a stunning photographic foodscape picture by TV's celebrity food photographer Carl Warner. Children can find out what fruit and vegetables are in season in Kent this summer on the seasonality chart on the Produced in Kent website (simply go to www.producedinkent.co.uk and follow the Useful Information and Seasonality links).

To enter the competition children can either submit electronic photographs of their work by email or send in their paper drawings/paintings to Produced in Kent's headquarters by Friday, September 18. Address details can be found on the website.

Children should clearly indicate their full name, school year group, the name of their school, age, a contact telephone number and email address. The age of the child will be taken into account during the judging by Produced in Kent's manager Julie Monkman and Carl Warner, but the entry should be entirely the work of the child.

The overall winner and runners up will be invited to the Food & Drink Festival in Canterbury on Saturday, September 26, where Mr Warner will present the prizes on the Produced in Kent exhibition stand. In addition to the foodscape picture, worth hundreds of pounds and a winner's certificate, the winner will be awarded a £50 voucher by Great Art (the UK's leading art suppliers) and a Great Art 12-pack colour box will be presented to the nine runners up with certificates.

To enter, visit www.producedinkent.co.uk.

Free food for children

YOU already know the benefits of buying local food and drink; and now thanks to the 2009 KOS Media campaign you can help boost the coffers of your local school too.

Food for Schools is our new exciting scheme to donate money to our schools every time you shop with www.foodforkent.co.uk.

But we need YOUR help to let us know which schools should get the cash and to help spread the word of all the benefits to health, the local economy and your back pocket, that buying local brings.

The www.foodforkent.co.uk website is spearheading our campaign by offering a huge range of seasonal produce – all sourced, wherever possible, from Kent – and is the perfect one-stop shop for all your shopping needs.

Now everytime you place an order over £40 on the site, we'll donate £2.50 to your nominated school. All you have to do is let us know which school you want to support and give the money to; and then tell your friends and other parents too. Every time they then spend on the site, another £2.50 will go towards the school – you'll be surprised how quickly it adds up.

You may be a parent, teacher, governor or member of the PTA but to ensure your school benefits, simply contact Jonathan Parker direct by emailing your details to



schools@foodforkent.co.uk. You will then be given a special code and every time you then shop with www.foodforkent.co.uk £2.50 will go towards the school – with the money handed over every month.

Foodforkent.co.uk is created by teaming up with long-established local producers of food and drink across the county with impeccable reputations and a guarantee of top quality. It offers fresh, seasonal vegetables, fruit, meats, bread, dairy products and much more besides.

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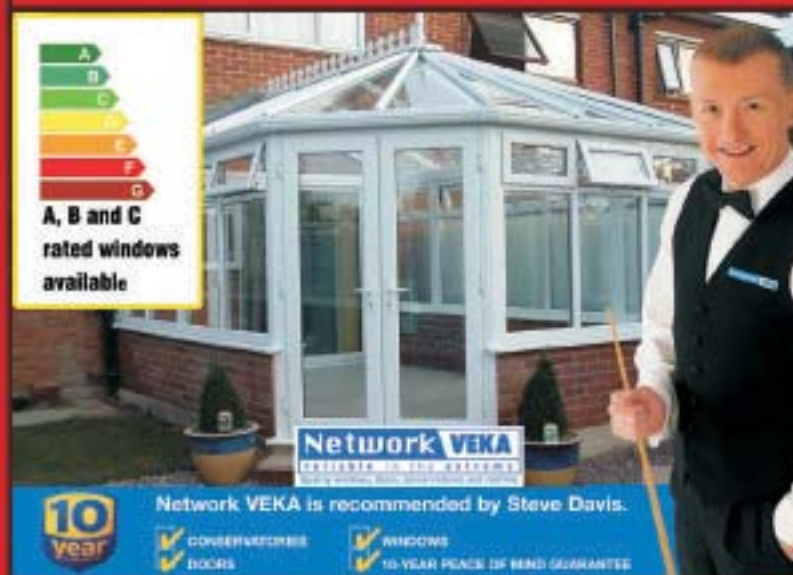
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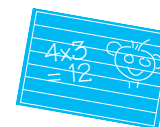
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BREAK TIME



Garden tribute to former head boys

FORMER head pupils returned to a Maidstone school at the weekend to officially open a garden in their honour.

The heads of school garden and pergola was created by the Sutton Valence School gardens department, featuring a cottage garden and walkway lined with ornamental benches.

More than 50 former heads of school chose a plant to be included in the garden.

Among the 150 species of flowers and shrubs will be commemorative plaques.

One of the former leaders who attended the launch on Saturday was Commander Peter Lawman, 94, who was head boy in 1933.

Headmaster Joe Davies, who welcomed the 18 former head pupils and their families to the ceremony, said: "This is the biggest project we have ever undertaken."

"We wanted to create an area that acknowledged our most senior past pupils but would also give current pupils and staff pleasure."

"The garden has taken over a year to plant, and with flowering shrubs, fragrant climbers and herbaceous plants we will have colour all year round."

It's well done, but we could have been toast

■ BY ANNA WHITE

A SCHOOL is celebrating a glowing Ofsted report – despite fearing the worst when the inspectors had to be evacuated following a case of burnt toast.

The Malling School has been rated "good" with many "outstanding" features following a visit by the country's education watchdog at the end of April.

The two-day inspection ran like clockwork, but it could have gone terribly wrong when the fire alarm sounded on the first morning.

The whole school at the East Malling site had to be evacuated and it was later revealed it was because somebody burned some toast.

But the alarm gave the students the opportunity to show their excellent behaviour and impress the inspectors with their calm and orderly response – so much so that it was commented on in the report.

The report praised the school's strong and varied curriculum, and in particular the care, guidance and support offered.

It described the school as having "a clear vision for the future – an expectation of success".

The school's specialist language, dyslexia and autism unit, the Tydeman centre, also received the highest possible praise from the government assessors.

Principal Carl Roberts has credited both the



USE YOUR LOAF: Malling School pupils see the funny side after a fire alert during the Ofsted inspectors' visit

staff for their innovative approach to teaching and care for the individual, and the students for their work ethic and their pride in the school.

He said: "I am very proud of the staff and students at our school and am pleased that their hard work has been formally recognised."

"Our aim is to be an outstanding school and the local school of choice."

"This report demonstrates we have to capac-

ity to achieve that goal in the very near future. The report confirms the opinion of every parent and child who has visited the school this year prior to applying for a place for September."

"They have all been impressed not only by the state-of-the-art buildings and learning environment, but also by the excellent behaviour and strong learning ethos of the students."

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yourmaidstoneblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in and around Maidstone...

Why are we still suffering here when it's so nice Down Under?

THE recession, the Government, Big Brother, CCTV, traffic jams, drizzle, clone towns, queues – don't you just love life in England?

But there is hope – and it comes from Down Under. The city of Adelaide in South Australia has launched a campaign to lure families to its Mediterranean climate, beaches and recession-free economy.

As well as job opportunities, the city is offering 300 days of sunshine a year, affordable house prices, and a better quality of life than offered here. And to top it off South Australia is on the brink of becoming the world's fastest growing economy. It sounds too good to be true.

Apparently the opportunities for those wishing to work or invest in Adelaide are second to none. And there are other attractions.

As well as long beachfronts, it boasts average summer temperatures of 28C, excellent wine and good schools. Not to mention ice cold beer of superb quality – no self-respecting

Aussie will tolerate rubbish like Fosters.

Victoria Bitter is great, as is Tooheys – and don't forget West End beer and Coopers. Perfect for a summer's evening.

Just remember to ask for an "Imperial Pint" – an Aussie one is just three quarters of one of ours but some pubs serve the full measure.

The food is okay too if you steer clear of vegimite.

For those hot evenings a Bundy and Coke can't be beaten – if you don't know that's rum and coke in a can, ready mixed.

And the day-to-day routine of work is so much more laid back with none of that tedious rat race and backstabbing you find over here.

A document by the South Australian Government to sum up the attractions of Adelaide in order to encourage businesses to invest in a growing economy rather than a declining one makes enticing reading.

Especially if you are stuck in negative equity in a flat somewhere uninspiring where the best night out is a Wetherspoons. I don't know about you but I'd rather cruise the Great

Ocean Road or take a boat to a tropical island.

Or rather than watch reality TV get a ride into the Outback and get to grips with nature.

Adelaide came in the top ten of The Economist's World's Most Livable Cities index last year – so that reinforces the point.

And finding a job seems easy with loads of random positions on offer.

The health sector needs as many staff as ever and other areas with vacancies include hair and beauty, fitness, gardening, farming and fishing. Jobs currently advertised at the moment range from accountancy to mining and engineering. South Australia still has skills shortages for accountants, chefs, wages specialists, factory workers and cheesemakers.

Australia already attracts many Britons, with 23,236 moving there in 2007-08, including 2,451 who went to Adelaide.

That's it – I'm off too ...

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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TEXT: **MAID** then your message to: 818000 (please remember to include your name)

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Write to The Editor, Yourmaidstone, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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THIS summer brace yourself for the definitive Pop experience; the biggest brand in pop music is back bringing you the Ultimate Pop Party album.

The kind folks from Pop Party have decided that one Pop Party release a year really isn't enough and we agree! So this summer you guys are in for a real treat, for the first time ever Pop Party is bringing you a perfectly pop-tastic album just in time for summer.

There is no other album like it – new and classic pop tracks combine on this the latest edition to the POP PARTY family. The experts at Pop Party HQ have worked tirelessly gathering together the hottest and biggest pop tracks EVER released to ensure that this album really is THE Ultimate Pop Party album. Spread out over two CDs this amazing mega-mix of pop hits is the perfect accompaniment to any party.

As you would expect the album comes jam-packed full of the biggest hits from the best artists of the moment. And as if that wasn't enough Ultimate Pop Party has gone that step further by throwing the odd MASSIVE party

track into the mix. The album features the biggest and best collection of top tunes and terrific chart toppers and the track-listing reads like a who's who of the pop world. From Pop stalwarts Take That, Kylie Minogue and ABBA through Girls Aloud, Lily Allen and the Sugababes to the newest kids on the pop block Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and The Saturdays! We have three copies to giveaway. To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Ultimate Pop Party Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. Closing date is June 30, 2009.

Question: How many CD's is the Ultimate Pop Party?

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TALK TIME

JON KEMP

The manager of a garden centre talks about the recent surge in people growing their own fruit and vegetables and the upcoming visit from Britain's Best BBQ chef



Tell us about yourself

I'm 36, live in Tunbridge Wells with my girlfriend, and I'm the manager of Notcutts Garden Centre in Maidstone.

Have you noticed a change in trade at Notcutts as a result of the credit crunch?

Notcutts has experienced a huge surge in people growing their own fruit and vegetables as a result of the credit crunch. And because you don't have to spend much to add loads of colour to your garden, you can get huge reward from the tightest budget.

Do you think people are spending more on the garden rather than going out?

Definitely. Research we've just conducted shows that more people are 'holidaying at home' this year, eating 'al fresco' in their gardens and generally getting a lot of pleasure from making their gardens an extension of their homes. And it's fun for all the family too.

Tell us about the upcoming visit from BBQ chef Ben Bartlett?

This year Britain is going BBQ mad, not only to take advantage of the great weather we've been promised but because it's a very cheap way of entertaining. Ben will be demonstrating all his top tips and recipes to get everyone's mouths watering. From secret burger recipes to decadent BBQ desserts, there won't be any excuse not to be a great griller after you've seen him in action.

YOUR LETTERS



Protect rights, stub out law breakers

I refer to the front page article in last week's Yourmaidstone about an individual breaking the law banning smoking in public places.

This is one person's view of a brilliant law that has made going out to pubs and restaurants a pleasure again.

When will these selfish addicts understand that the majority of people do not wish to inhale their spent poison, and that this law was passed to protect our human rights!

I would urge the authorities to do the right thing and prosecute anyone breaking the law.

Ian Blake, from Maidstone, by email

We're paying for the propaganda

It appears that the council is not interested in prosecuting individuals as they only get a paltry fine.

They will probably target innocent organisations like shopping



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NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

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centres so the courts can extract as much money by the way of a fine as possible.

You have probably noticed millions upon millions of pounds wasted on smoking propaganda they have to get it back somehow.

Why not complain to your MP about this total waste of multi-millions of pounds for little results.

Peter Willis, from London, comment posted on web story at www.yourmaidstone.co.uk

Man sparked up important issue

Well done that man!

The lying cheating politicians who decided that 12 million people are breaking the law for smoking inside places are now jumping ship.

They lied to the public about so-called Educational Testing Service and are still lying while feathering their nests. They got paid big money from the drug companies to force an illegal ban on the law-abiding people of this country.

This man is not breaking a law that has a right to be in existence, being made by liars and thieves.

Shaun, from Reculver, comment posted on web story at www.yourmaidstone.co.uk

Stop treating us like children

It is definitely time that more people openly opposed this unnecessary and divisive law.

We have had enough of these stupid laws which treat adults as children and are created by the corrupt to keep control of the people.

It is only the fanatics which keep this stupidity going and we have had enough of them too.

John, from London, comment posted on web story at www.yourmaidstone.co.uk

Time to come out from smoke screen

It is about time the Government started listening to the voting public, instead of making policies behind closed doors.

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Amend the smoking ban to allow for the landlords to decide whether to allow smoking or not.

Even a separate smoking room (snug) would cater for civil liberties better!

It's time that the nanny-state Government and the other two big political parties took a long hard look at what they are doing to Britain. What are they going to dictate to us about next?

Trinity, from Middlessex, comment posted on web story at www.yourmaidstone.co.uk



Putting up a united front at the polling booth

I know politicians are not the most popular group of people at the moment but after a bit of thought I did vote in the Kent County Council elections on Thursday.

I feel that it is important to show that people are still interested in the democratic process even though the people involved in it as elected representatives are not all they should be – or at least many of them aren't.

Also I felt it was important not to allow the odious National Front any chance of a share of the vote.

Ian Todd, from Tovil, by email

Waxing lyrical about idiots on Big Brother

In your blog last week about Big Brother's most annoying character there was one person who was clearly missing.

The worst housemate ever who once received more than 90 per cent of the eviction vote despite being up against two others has to be "Seezer the Geezer".

I remember him going on about being a city trader and amateur boxer who was irresistible to women because he waxed his chest.

What a prize idiot.

Dave Lester, by email

I'm bowled over by unfair ticket prices at the cricket

Does anyone else agree with me that the pricing and ticket arrangements for Kent's 20-20 cricket matches are unfair?

Not to let people who fork out for membership into the games with their pass is unfair.

I know the team wants to attract a new crowd for this short form of the game but to expect people who have paid out quite a large sum to have to pay again on the day strikes me as unfair.

Membership should entitle a person to a ticket for all home games – especially those that are most popular.

On the positive side though, the idea of offering a free ticket for a county championship game when you show your 20-20 ticket at the game – as was offered on Sunday May 31 in the Sussex home clash – is an excellent one.

Ian Paynter, from Bearstead, by email



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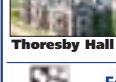
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Tuning in to a guitar master



Professor of guitar Richard Smith is performing in Kent and will be passing on his skills in special masterclasses

FANS of guitar music can take a lesson from an expert when Richard Smith visits Kent this month.

As a professor of guitar at the University of Southern California, Smith is the perfect role-model for aspiring musicians and is used to passing on his expertise.

Now people in Kent can not only enjoy his performances in two concerts but also take advantage of a free guitar masterclass by this consummate musician.

The award-winning recording artist and performer is the jazz guitarist with Los Angeles-based LA Chilharmonic, which will perform in Margate and Folkestone. Described as smooth contemporary jazz with

pop accessibility and a funky R&B edge, their music should appeal to jazz fans and those who are looking for something a little different.

As a professor at USC's Thornton School of Music, Smith heads the Guitar Masters programme in the Studio/Jazz Guitar Department and gives free lessons and mentoring to at-risk children in the Los Angeles area.

He visits Kent at the request of local promoter and music business lecturer Julia Jones, who is fostering links between the American college and Canterbury Christ Church University's music departments.

Thornton School of Music is ranked alongside the prestigious Julliard School in New York as one of the top conservatoires in the world.

A world-class player with a num-

ber of accolades to his name, Smith cites a variety of influences, from jazz guitar legends Wes Montgomery, George Benson and Pat Martino to his mentor Joe Diorio and contemporary jazz pioneers Lee Ritenour, Larry Carlton and Robben Ford.

He has taught masterclasses throughout Europe and the US, as well as performing at prestigious venues such as the Town Hall in New York, the World Trade Centre and the Orchestra Hall, Chicago.

The guitar masterclass will be held at the Canterbury Christ Church University campus in Broadstairs on Saturday.

Admission is by guest list only, so to join email julia@musichub.org.uk.

LA Chilharmonic will be performing at Cafe G in Margate at 8pm on Sunday. Tickets cost £15, including first drink and snacks.

For more information, you can phone the cafe on 01843 225600.

They can also be seen at Quarterhouse in Folkestone on Thursday, June 18, starting at 7.30pm. Support will be provided by acclaimed Kent singer-songwriter Raphael Mead. You can hear some of Mead's tracks and find out more about him online at www.myspace.com/raphaelmead.

Tickets cost £10 in advance or £12 on the door. To book, phone 01303 858500, or visit the website at www.quarterhouse.co.uk.

RICHARD SMITH

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SUPPORT: Kent singer-songwriter Raphael Mead will also be performing

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COPPELIA

Sunday, June 14
Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone



THE enchanting story of a couple in love and an eccentric toymaker is told in the classic ballet Coppelia.

Vienna Festival Ballet presents the production, which follows the fortunes of a betrothed couple whose happiness is threatened when the groom comes across a life-size dancing doll, created by a local inventor.

To show him the error of his ways, his fiancée dresses as the doll and pretends to come to life in a tale full of humour, triumph and love. This sentimental comic ballet offers a heart-warming story and stunning performances by the dancers as they bring this magical story to life.

Now in its 29th year, Vienna Festival Ballet was founded by celebrated Austrian dancer Peter Mallek and has performed all over the world. The company's aim is to bring classical ballet to wide audiences at affordable prices and it makes many visits to Kent.

Performances start at 2pm and 5pm. Tickets cost £18.50/£15.50. To book, call the box office on 01622 758611 or visit the website at www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk



EMILY DICKINSON AND I

Thursday, June 11
Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells



AN ACTRESS attempts to portray her idol in the gripping play, Emily Dickinson And I.

This one-woman show about 'writing, acting and getting into Emily Dickinson's dress' is an intriguing look at the difficulties of bringing a dead person's spirit to the stage. Actress and real-life admirer Edie Campbell longs to produce a piece of work that will encapsulate the essence of Dickinson.

How do you make a character breathe without putting words in their mouth? Is it possible to make a person whole by relying only on their written words? This original piece of theatre tells a moving and intensely personal story, presented by LynchPin Theatre Company.

The prolific American poet died in 1886 after living virtually as a recluse for many years. She published just a handful of poems during her lifetime and achieved real fame after her death, when her younger sister discovered hundreds of unseen poems.

The play starts at 8pm and tickets cost £12.50/£10.50. To book online, log on to www.trinitytheatre.net or call the box office on 01892 678678.

ANGELINA BALLERINA

Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14
Assembly Halls Theatre, Tunbridge Wells



CHILDREN'S favourite Angelina Ballerina returns to the stage for a thrilling new ballet.

Angelina Ballerina's Big Audition sees the little star with big dreams hoping to join the prestigious Camembert Academy. Her friends from the English National Ballet join her for this exciting show, which could see Angelina achieve her dream.

With a nerve-wracking audition to prepare for, Miss Lilly helps Angelina to get ready for her big chance. She must perform well in front of the judges if she wants to win a place at the Academy, but it also presents a chance for the little dancer to learn. She meets a host of friends who introduce her to twists on traditional ballet, from jazz to hip-hop.

Excited as she is, Angelina worries about leaving Alice and her home behind. Will she be successful and start an exciting new chapter in her life, or be left waiting in the wings?

Tickets cost £20/£15 for adults and £10/£7.50 for children. Book online at www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01892 530613/53207



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Spread the word on county's farm history

BECOME a part of the county's heritage by joining Friends of Kent Life.

The volunteer group is looking for new members to help support the popular Maidstone attraction, which both entertains visitors and educates them about Kent's farming heritage.

For more information about the group, phone Claire Boyd on 01904 527700 or email cboyd@continuum-group.com

Latin rhythms get all glitzy for benefit night

BRITAIN'S number one Latin American dancers will be at The Strictly Glitzy Ball in Tunbridge Wells next week.

Kerri-Anne Donaldson and Alejandro Hernandez will be at the event at High Rocks on Thursday, June 18. It is being held in aid of England and Kent cricketer Martin Saggars' Benefit Year.

Call Laura Collins on 07802 643696 or email laura@saggarsbenefit2009.co.uk

Amanda fiddles with Rod at the Zebra Bar

SONGWRITER and performer Rod Picott visits Maidstone in the company of fiddler and singer Amanda Shires.

Picott and Shires will be performing for Maverick at the Zebra Bar in King Street on Monday evening, as will Marybeth D'Amico and Tim Whelan.

Tickets cost £10 in advance or £12 on the door. To book, call 01622 744481. Visit www.myspace.com/maverick_zebra

Mose-y on down for some easy listening

MISSISSIPPI song man Mose Allison brings his laid-back style to Pizza Express in Maidstone this weekend.

The ageless entertainer sings songs that have been covered by artists such as Van Morrison, Elvis Costello and The Who. He will be supported by alternative folk artist Nathalie Nahai.

The concert starts at 7pm on Saturday. To book, go to www.pizzaexpresslive.com

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Man battles the machines once again in an all-guns-blazing reboot of the Terminator series. The fourth film is a very bleak affair set in a desolate near future, with Christian Bale as John Connor.

DRAG ME TO HELL (15)



After record-breaking box-office success with Spider-Man and its sequels, director Sam Raimi returns to horror with this tongue-in-cheek battle for a young woman's soul.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2 (PG)



Continuing the misadventures of the living museum exhibits, the story switches to the largest museum complex in the world, the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC.

Revisiting her freedom

■ BY SUSAN GRIFFIN

EMMA Thompson has a 'couldn't care less' attitude that makes her irresistible – and her next move will see her bowing out of the lime-light for a year.

With her latest film, *Last Chance Harvey* released on Friday, Thompson is now finishing filming the second *Nanny McPhee* movie, which she has written and stars in. Then the two-time Oscar winner intends to reward herself with a break, having turned 50 in April.

"It is a big milestone," the actress says. "It is one of the biggest because when you reach it you can say 'I'm going to be a naturalist now'. You can say whatever you want."

"Funnily enough, my great friend, the actor Derek Jacobi, recently turned 70 and I said, 'what was that like compared to 50 or 60?'"

"He said, it's very different. At 50 you can do what you want, at 60 you have to do what you're doing – at 70, you have no choices left. So with a view to making the right choices, I'm taking a year off. It's my birthday present to myself."

While other more insecure stars would be fearful of people forgetting their name, Thompson is ready to embrace a period of calm: "As an actor and writer, sometimes I think you have to stop creating and let your brain relax. I think it hones the appetite."

Despite her advancing years, Thompson still retains a youthful spirit that drives her on.

Last year she was caught by paparazzi dancing around a lamp-post, her designer dress hitched up as she flashed her legs and pulled faces for the cameras on the way home from the after-party for the *Brideshead Revisited* premiere in London. Despite the adulation and awards, her unpretentious manner is clear to see – it's why the 'everywoman' roles she plays resonate with audiences.

Thompson delivers yet another striking performance in *Last Chance Harvey*, where she plays Kate, a woman who appears to go about her life without expectation or ambition. Then one day she meets a fellow lost soul in the shape of Harvey, played by Dustin Hoffman.



VIEW THIS PREVIEW

yourkenttv.co.uk



"It was a coming of age movie for both of us. I don't think we could have done it earlier in our careers. I love that about the movie."

Last Chance Harvey is a low-key romance,

READY TO RELAX: Emma Thompson is taking a year off

written and directed by relative newcomer Joel Hopkins. Without Thompson's support, it's unlikely the studio, Overture Films, would ever have given the project the go-ahead.

"Yes, that is true," she says, laughing. "Well, kind of... It was serendipity because I had just worked with Dustin on *Stranger Than Fiction* and he wanted to do it. That connection we had was what made the movie happen."

But before she has a chance to shy away from the spotlight to enjoy her birthday gift to herself, she has to finish making the *Nanny McPhee* sequel, which she chose ahead of continuing her role in the *Harry Potter* series.

"I've been writing it for three years and I'm really excited about it," she says. "It is set 100 years after the last film and the only thing the same is (her character) *Nanny McPhee*."

Only then, when the cameras have stopped rolling can Thompson sit back and enjoy the fruits of her success.

LAST CHANCE HARVEY
Certificate 12A

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Twisted theme night – sea you there

ELECTRO-loving pirates, sailors and mermaids should set sail for Maidstone for the Twisted at Sea theme night later this month.

The 'Boat Rocking Dress Up Party' will feature the very best in dub-step, hip-hop and funk across two stages.

Resident Twisted DJs will be joined by We Are Your Friends, Big Trouble, gangster house duo 2 Bit Thugs and DJ Matt Cox.

A spokesman for The Source Bar event said: "Twisted is taking a cruise and throwing its anchor into the sea just in time for the summer months and for all you returning students."

"We thought what better way to start the weekly summer parties with yet another one

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

of our epic themes and this time we are getting seasick and partying over the deep blue nothing with some very special guests.

"There will be big prizes for the best dressed and runners up, so all you have to do is dress up as something at sea or even in the sea like castaways, beach bums, pirates or impress us with some homemade sea monster."

"As per usual, the Twisted team will be doing up the bar as much as possible to give it that summer sea vibe and this time we will be helped on the night by a lovely set of helpers who will be providing you with some ice cream, candy floss, cakes and some cool accessories."

Twisted at Sea boasts two rooms – The Boat Party and The Dockyard.

We Are Your Friends and Twisted DJs will take charge of the decks in The Boat Party while Big Trouble, 2 Bit Thugs and Matt Cox will take charge in The Dockyard.

Clubbers are advised to bring their sea-faring ware to the night as a foam machine will be set up outside.

Twisted at Sea takes place on Tuesday, June 23. The club is open from 9pm to 4am. Entry costs £3, £2 NUS.

TWISTED AT SEA
Twisted DJs
We Are Your Friends
Big Trouble
2 Bit Thugs
DJ Matt Cox.



ON THE DECKS: DJ Matt Cox will play at Twisted at Sea

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To see the selection pop into The Mall Chequers store or visit www.next.co.uk.

Dress to impress at Dorothy Perkins store

SHOPPERS can pick up the summer's must-haves at Dorothy Perkins.

The store in Week Street has a selection of day dresses with bold floral prints. Cream floral dresses are £40, blue rose hitch hem dresses are £38 or for those wanting a longer length, cream maxi dresses are available for £45.

Yellow and green crotchet hitch dresses can be found for £38, or a funky multi-colour dress for £30. For more details log on to www.dorothyperkins.com.

Say good night with luxurious sleepwear

SNUGGLE up with help from Bon Marche and its new range of sleepwear.

Dressing gowns, floral nightdresses and bed jackets can all be picked up from around £12 and nightshirts from £6-£10 at The Mall Chequers store. A luxurious printed satin Kimono is £14, a printed satin nightdress is £12 or a plain satin nightdress also £12. Slippers can be found priced at £4, £6 or £7.

For more information visit www.bonmarche.co.uk.

Get your hot deals at Superdrug this summer

GET ready for summer when you shop at Superdrug with a number of deals to be had on sun-related products.

Ambre Solaire Kids Spray at factor 30 is £10.97, down from £13.70 and available on buy-one-get-one free.

Optimum Rejuvenate and Restore day cream is ideal after spending hours on the sun lounger and is priced at £8.31, while Ralph Lauren sunglasses are down over £50 at £39.15. Visit the Week Street store or go to www.superdrug.com.

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY MARIJKE COX

 **SPRINGWATCH 2009**
BBC Two, 8pm, weeknights
 **THE COACH TRIP**
Channel 4, 5pm, Monday

WHO would have guessed that Springwatch would have become quite the success it has?

Turns out there's nothing some of us like better than watching some birds twitter in and out of a nestbox in glorious technicolour and now we're on series five.

The show has returned for a new run and as ever sticks to much the same formula as before.

Mind you, it has lost the beardy birdman from Rochdale, Bill Oddie, who has left to "take a breather".

He has been replaced in the studio/shed by Chris Packham, who used to present the Really Wild Show when I was a nipper. Indeed, the fact that he now looks pretty old makes me, in turn, feel less than spritely.

Those who tend to find hedgehogs scuttling around at the bottom of the garden a fascinating insight into the fabric of his country will love this, and will no doubt already have tuned in, because this is one popular show.

Others would be advised to steer well clear.

Just when you thought they couldn't take reality television any further the brains at Channel 4 manage to pull another one out the bag.

And to all those who thought the country had run out of fame-seeking reality dummies, you were wrong.

After the success of the first two series, travel show The Coach Trip has started up again, following seven pairs of contestants on a six-week tour around Europe.

Each episode shows the coach load of 'tourists' crammed together and experiencing a typical trip round the



WATCH THE BIRDIE: Nature's lovers should be tuned in to the new series of BBC's Springwatch

Continent – but with a difference.

At the end of each day each pair – made up of the usual husband and wife, mother and daughter or life-long friends combo – have to vote off the people they least like.

This in itself is gripping viewing when waiting to see what fights will erupt when Geoff and Anne, for example, are told they don't gel well with the rest of the dozy lot.

In the event a couple get two yellow cards they are thrown off the bus and replaced with a new pair of eager contestants.

But what makes this show even funnier is the browbeaten, camp tour guide Brendon, who tries desperately to keep things running smoothly as he herds 14 people around Europe.

Brits abroad causing mayhem, who would've thought it, eh?

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOU'RE a lot more sentimental than usual. Maybe the reason you're so emotional is that you miss a good friend. Although you can still keep in touch via phone and email, you need some face to face time. Perhaps you can pay them a visit, but expectations reasonable.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOUR allure is at an all-time high; use it to your advantage. This is a great time to get favours from all sorts of people. Beware of accepting an offer with strings attached, though. You wouldn't want to get into a relationship that's more trouble than it's worth.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

SPARKS are flying between you and a powerful personality. If you're in a shaky relationship, this could mark the death knell of your union. You simply can't endure their bizarre behaviour. Resist the urge to jump straightaway into another commitment. It's best to play the field.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

BE extra attentive to the one you love because they have the power to make or break your happiness. Recently, you've been preoccupied with work and may have taken out your frustrations on a best friend or romantic partner: Carrying on like this will result in a nasty shock.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

DON'T be afraid to draw attention to your talent. A little self promotion goes a long way. If you're trying to win someone's heart, summon your confidence. Pretend you're playing a part in a movie, if necessary. Playing the wallflower at a party will have disastrous results.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

MAKING a sacrifice on behalf of a loved one comes naturally. Some people will think you are behaving oddly and there may be good reasons for their concern. After all, you've been hurt by relationships in the past. Maybe it's better to wait before making a heartfelt pledge.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU can afford to be a little reckless where your love life is concerned. If you're in a relationship, whisk your lover away to a hidden trysting place. If you're single, it's time to confess a crush. Someone who admires your bravery could come forward and ask for a date.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

IT'S time to spruce up your wardrobe. If fashion isn't your thing, get some help from a well-dressed Libra or Pisces. This friend can show you which colours and cuts will enhance your looks. Don't get angry if they steer you away from your favourite looks.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOUR cash levels look likely to rise sharply. You could get a hefty sum for a valuable antique you no longer want. Alternatively, you could land a better paid job or get a rise. Be sure to put some of the money toward something very special for your home.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

SPENDING time with friends is a good idea. You've been so wrapped up in work recently you've all, but forgotten your social life. Swing the pendulum in the other direction and go out with your best mates. A steady job could come to an unexpected halt, leaving you the loser.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU'RE getting mixed signals from someone sexy. The best way to keep their interest is to give them the cold shoulder. Sure, it's risky, but the payoff will be tremendous. An innocent remark could provoke an angry reaction. That's further proof this flirt interested in you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

YOUR creative juices are flowing like a mighty river. There's never been a better time to write a first chapter or apply your paintbrush to a canvas. Give yourself permission to start slowly. Resist the temptation to throw something out once you've started it.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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CRYPTIC CLUES

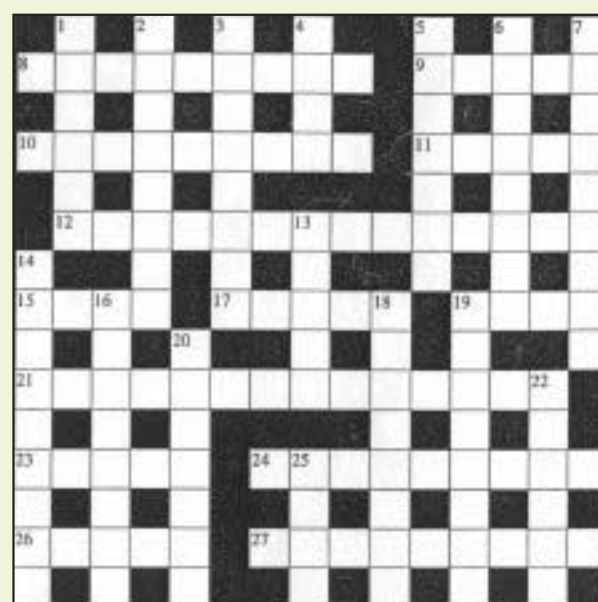
ACROSS

- 8 Indecent photograph of detailed scheme (9)
9 Bird mother once protected (5)
10 Meet Ma, a NZ stranger in astonishment (9)
11 Army accepting a member in Florida (5)
12 Prince's military manoeuvre? (6-8)
15 Do a bit of pressing (4)
17 Venetian magistrate trapped old penny duck (5)
19 Lady drops a clanger (4)
21 Grillroom? (7,7)
23 Old piece of France (5)
24 Become bored with TV perhaps, so do this to it (6,3)
26 Some of the Israelites chosen (5)
27 Scheme by extraterrestrial with a number of lines of certain heavenly bodies (9)

DOWN

- 1 Refuse to talk about said meat at university (4,2)
2 Last letter in atonement for Cornish resort (8)
3 Top part of capstan, or of percussion instrument? (8)
4 We do not know the name of this prolific author (4)
5 Threats surprisingly disintegrate (7)
6 English PM first making debut (8)
7 Unworldly? (9)
13 Doctor, one leaving famous Italian family (5)
14 Explained how margins had been aligned (9)
16 Some whinger, manic-depressive, from a European country (8)
18 Insisting on doing the work of thespian formerly at the start (8)
19 Robert had pale quail (8)
20 Sooner more readily responsive (7)
22 Change bench about first (6)
25 Fancy twill almost to become limp (4)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 8 Scribbling (9)
9 Ovals (anag) (5)
10 Played by plucking (9)
11 Open sore (5)
12 Willing to engage in community action (6-8)
15 Above (4)
17 Story (5)
19 Bracken (4)
21 Most successful to date (6-8)
23 Undulated (5)
24 Pantomime character (4,5)
26 Bedfordshire town (5)
27 Large hunting dog (9)

DOWN

- 1 Stint (6)
2 Tanzanian island (8)
3 Act of choosing (8)
4 Use needles (4)
5 Drafting instrument (1-6)
6 Part of formal wear (5,3)
7 Driving stolen car (9)
13 Raves (anag) (5)
14 Wooden footpath (9)
16 Dig out (8)
18 Unit of language from another language (4,4)
19 Scare (8)
20 Circumspect (7)
22 The rag (anag) (6)
25 Christmas (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No90

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No90

ACROSS: 1 Freckled 6 Albeit 9 Jotter
10 Parasite 11 Conservation 13 Byron 14
Neuralgia 17 Hemstitch 19 Evade 21
Brownie point 24 Atropine 25 Not out 26
Groyne 27 Standing. DOWN: 2 Room 3 Cut
across 4 Larynx 5 Deplete 6 Aardvark 7
Beset 8 In two minds 12 Typewriter 15
Levitated 16 Divisive 18 Cypress 20 Zinnia
22 Woolly 23 Quin.

QUICK SOLUTION No91

ACROSS: 8 Scrawling 9 Salvo 10 Pizzicato
11 Ulcer 12 Public-spirited 15 Over 17 Novel
19 Fern 21 Record-breaking 23 Waved 24
DOWN: 1 Scrimp 2 Zanzibar 3 Election 4
Knit 5 T-square 6 Black tie 7 Joyriding 13
Saver 14 Boardwalk 16 Excavate 18 Loan
word 19 Frighthen 20 Prudent 22 Gather
25 Noel.

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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King of Theatreland

SPENDING the weekend in London feels like a luxurious treat, especially when combining it with a trip to the West End.

When planning a short break in the capital, it is easy to find good value theatre and hotel packages on the internet.

Websites such as www.superbreak.com and www.lastminute.com can help to take the stress out of organising the trip and often offer high quality breaks at budget prices.

We decided to see one of London's most

■ BY JANE CONNOLLY

acclaimed musical productions, *The Lion King*, at the beautiful Lyceum Theatre. Now celebrating its 10th year on the stage, the show has remained popular with theatregoers and it was time to find out why.

It took an hour to travel into London Victoria on the train and about another 20 minutes to reach Paddington underground station, where we had a few minutes' walk to the four-star London Paddington Shaftesbury Premier hotel.



Picture: CATHERINE ASHMORE, COPYRIGHT DISNEY

Our pre-theatre meal was at Sticky Fingers, an American-style diner in Philimore Gardens, Kensington, owned by Rolling Stone Bill Wyman. Funky, bright and welcoming, it was a pleasant place to eat and refreshingly priced for a celebrity haunt. The excellent food presented true value for money – having ordered the ribs for £14.45, we were presented with a massive rack that made a proper meal, while the smoked chicken cobb salad at £12.95 was equally substantial.

The Lyceum Theatre is a short walk from Temple or Covent Garden tube stations and we were glad we had booked, as there were long queues outside the box office.

Anticipation was palpable in the theatre as the curtain went up, with many audience members already discussing plot and characters with fond familiarity. Recreating the much-loved figures from the mega-hit animated movie would have been enough of a challenge, without the sprawling setting of the African plains to contend with as well. But any fan of the original would not have been disappointed with this respectful, creative and colourful production.

The breath-taking opening scene features possibly the film's best-known song, the anthem *Circle of Life*, accompanied by a truly remarkable collection of creatures. Displaying awesome ingenuity with set and costume design, the award-winning production conjures up giraffes, rhinos and even a small elephant.

Wisely perhaps, the costume designers have gone for rather abstract approximations of animals for the main characters, though some actors are more encumbered than others. The young Simba, our tale's fledgling hero, wears little more than a tail to depict his lion identity in the first half.

Imaginative, thrilling and unexpectedly moving in places, the show was hugely entertaining. It never scrimped on the visual effects to convey *The Lion King*'s exotic setting and more dramatic episodes, while one enormously atmospheric scene – in which the adult Simba converses with his late father – drew audible gasps from the audience.

The film's memorable score has been expanded so the show now boasts 15 songs. Superb live music and singing perfectly evoked the African location and it was pleasing to hear lyrics that were not always sung in English.

Judging by the standing ovation from a packed house at the end of the show, *The Lion King* will continue to reign over Theatreland for a long time to come.

Travel details

- Superbreak offers weekend theatre packages starting from £69. To find out more visit www.superbreak.com or call 0871 221 3344.
- To book a meal at Sticky Fingers call 020 7938 5338 or email bookings@stickyfingers.co.uk. More information and menus can be found on the website at www.stickyfingers.co.uk.
- Tickets for *The Lion King* are always in high demand, particularly in summer, so book as early as possible to avoid disappointment. Prices start at £20 and bookings are currently being taken for dates up to March 28, 2010. To book call 0844 844 0005 or see www.thelionking.co.uk.

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PROPERTY NEWS

Student digs 'good bet during credit crunch'

RESEARCH has found that student accommodation is still attracting investors.

Estate agents Savills discovered rental growth and high occupancy rates continued to attract investors into the digs sector, though the 'limited availability of appropriate investment vehicles risks frustrating attempts by individual investors to benefit from the sector'.

The average rents for purpose-built student housing (PBSH) grew by five per cent between 2007/2008 and 2008/2009, with 7 per cent seen in the capital.

Demand for PBSH continued, despite the economic downturn, with undergraduate applications up by 9 per cent for 2008/2009.

Savills also found that the number of new students was outpacing the new supply of accommodation by a factor of ten nationally.

Jacqui Daly, director of Savills research, said: "High demand, low supply growth, rising rents and high occupancy rates make student accommodation an investment vehicle of choice during uncertain economic times.

"An underlying supply/demand imbalance points to a robust outlook for the sector, while the strengths of the business model mean that capital values have not fallen to the same degree as other commercial or residential real estate."

Rental levels may have hit bottom, say experts

ACCORDING to the FindaProperty Rental Index, May saw property rental prices remain steady, leading to cautious optimism that rental prices may have reached the bottom.

For the first time since August 2009, property rental prices did not show a month-on-month drop.

The average monthly rent remained at £819, although this is 5.5 per cent lower than the same time last year.

Houses and flats continue to react differently to the rental market conditions.

There has been a fall in the supply of rental houses which is leading to a modest increase in rents being demanded, say analysts.

They add that there is a rising number of flats available, leading to a fall in rents.

A rental property is now on the market for 65 days, up 16 days on this time last year.



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GREEN SHOOTS: The second month-on-month rise in house prices, increased buyer activity and a hike in average asking prices could all be seen as reasons for optimism

Increase in house prices gets cautious welcome

■ BY NICK AMES

THE property market has been boosted by news that house prices have risen for the second time in three months.

Nationwide's monthly figures for May showed that house prices rose by 1.2 per cent, taking the annual decline to 11.3 per cent – a sharp improvement from 15 per cent.

The findings are the latest in a market which has become more optimistic in recent weeks, following an unprecedented gloomy start to the year.

But Nationwide warned that what it called a 'spring bounce' in prices does not necessarily signal the last of the house prices falls.

Martin Gahbauer, Nationwide's chief economist, said: "Although the short-term trend in house prices has clearly improved from where it was at the beginning of the year, it is still too early to say that the market is turning definitively.

"During the downturn of the early 1990s, there were many months during which prices rose, only to fall back down again in subsequent periods.

"Nonetheless, the improvement in house price trends is consistent with signs of stabilisation in several other economic indicators and suggests that any further price declines may occur at a less rapid pace than in 2008."

Other evidence of an upturn in the market

has been spotted by market analysts in recent days. Michael White, chief executive of online mortgage adviser Email Mortgages.com, added: "Those looking for further evidence of green shoots will point to increased first-time buyer activity in the market, positive noises from estate agents and the recent Rightmove average asking-price figures, which also showed an increase.

"However, the fact remains that it is very early days to be suggesting a full-blown recovery in the UK housing market."

The upward movement of house prices could

be explained by a recent stabilisation of the ratio of sales to unsold stock, as published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Nationwide said.

But with unemployment still rising and credit conditions remaining tight, experts say demand is likely to remain low for some time, while supply will be constricted as sellers are reluctant to put their home on the market when prices are depressed.

If demand starts to rise while supply levels stay low, prices could begin to rise again.

"For the moment, however, it is unclear how the balance between supply and demand will ultimately work through in the coming months," Mr Gahbauer said.

Over-estimating property value could be expensive

HOMEOWNERS overestimate the value of their homes by more than £35,000, according to research by Abbey Mortgages.

It discovered that the average homeowner estimates their home to be worth £190,175 – an overestimation of £37,280 compared with the Land Registry house price figures, which put today's average house price at £152,895.

Despite falling house prices, homeowners across all regions overvalued their homes.

Those living in the East and South East were the most optimistic, estimating their

homes to be worth £53,422 above Land Registry estimates.

Nici Audhlam-Gardiner, Abbey director of mortgages, said: "Homeowners looking to remortgage or sell need to make sure that the value of their home is accurate and has been valued by professionals to avoid problems or disappointment further down the line.

"As house prices continue to fall, the longer a customer delays, the more they risk losing out on the good rates, due to fall in value of their home and the increase in their loan-to-value."

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TOVIL £109,950

A two bedroom modern ground floor apartment with ensuite shower room to the master bed. There is a fitted kitchen with appliances open plan to the living room. The property is double glazed.

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MAIDSTONE £139,950

A three bedroom terraced family home with off road parking, gas fired central heating and double glazing. There is a lounge/dining room and utility area. An internal viewing is essential.

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MAIDSTONE £239,995

A four bedroom chalet bungalow. The master bedroom has an ensuite and there are 3 reception rooms, kitchen and utility room. An internal viewing is recommended and there is no forward chain.

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BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA £162,500

A modern two bedroom home with a double glazed conservatory, lounge and kitchen/diner with fitted hob and oven. Other benefits include gas central heating, double glazing and parking.

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MAIDSTONE £379,950

A detached home with four bedrooms. The property has a be-spoke fitted kitchen which is open plan to the dining room with living room and double glazed conservatory. There is also a utility room, shower room and bathroom.

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MAIDSTONE £109,995

A one bedroom ground floor retirement apartment. This development benefits from a full time resident manager, communal meeting room, laundry facilities and a car park.

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MAIDSTONE £74,995

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BEARSTED £325,000

A re-furnished four double bedroom chalet bungalow with ensuite to the master. There is a fitted kitchen/diner with appliances, cloakroom and double aspect living room, gas central heating, double glazing.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891


LARKFIELD £184,995

An older style four bedroom home with a shaker style kitchen, dining room with open fire and double aspect lounge. Other benefits include gas central heating, double glazing and garden.

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MAIDSTONE OIEO £350,000

A double storey extended home. The accommodation includes 4 double bedrooms (master ensuite), bathroom and shower. A fitted kitchen/breakfast room with a dining room & living room and garden with workshop & office.

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MAIDSTONE £159,995

If you are looking for a good size accommodation this is the home for you! Terraced yet has side pedestrian access which leads to your rear garden. Ideal for a garage.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891


MAIDSTONE £199,950

An improved bay fronted three bedroom home with a fitted kitchen and bathroom and a converted cellar used as a study/music room. Other benefits include gas central heating, double glazing and a double aspect lounge/dining room.

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HUNTON OIEO £295,000

People who are looking for something unusual, quirky, offering character yet good living space, this is the cottage for you! Its location is private and secluded adjacent to allotments and open countryside.

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LANGLEY £165,000

A spacious and improved two bedroom. The property benefits from a re-fitted kitchen/dining room and has 2 double bedrooms together with gas central heating & double glazing. An internal viewing is highly recommended.

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MAIDSTONE £119,950

A unique two bedroom Grade II Listed home. The accommodation is arranged over three floors with modern kitchen and bathroom but does require some work. There are two loft rooms with separate staircases.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891

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We are acting for the mortgagee in possession and have received an offer of £97,500 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891


MAIDSTONE £299,950

A spacious 5 bedroom bungalow with 2 bathrooms. Benefits include kitchen/dining room and living room. The garage is now utilised as a studio/annex. decking area with swimming pool.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891


MAIDSTONE £162,950

A super two double bedroom home with a living room and dining room. The property benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and a garden with a decking and patio area.

Maidstone Office 01622 759891


MAIDSTONE £225,950

A three bedroom home with ensuite. Benefits include living room and dining room with a double glazed conservatory, cloakroom, gas central heating, double glazing and garden.

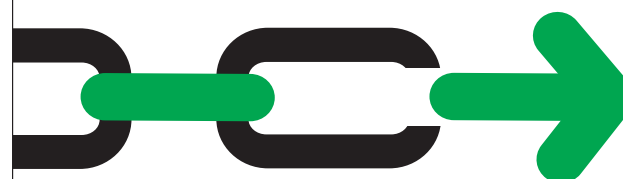
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23 Birch Tree Way, Maidstone, Kent ME15 7RP
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2 The Minor Centre, Grove Green,
Maidstone, Kent ME14 5TQ



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3 bedroom bungalow, 2 receptions, gas central heating, double glazing, garden

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Downswood £289,995

Three bed bungalow, double glazing, gas central heating, gardens and garage

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Weaving £275,000

Three bedroom house, conservatory, double glazing, gas central heating

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Maidstone OIEO £275,000

5 bedrooms with swimming pool & studio annex. Double glazing, central heating

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Loose OIEO £250,000

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Maidstone £235,000

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Maidstone Guide Price £230,000

2 bedroom bungalow with 2 receptions, kitchen, bathroom, garage and driveway

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Weaving £229,995

3 bedroom property, lounge/dining area plus study, garage and garden

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Weaving £227,500

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2 bed bungalow. Lounge/dining room, enclosed rear garden, popular village location.

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Downswood £167,500

Two bedroom semi-detached, UPVC double glazing, side and rear gardens

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Downswood £167,500

Two bedroom semi-detached, conservatory, driveway, no chain

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Maidstone £162,500

2 bedroom Victorian style house with double glazing, central heating

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Leeds £125,000

2 bedroom first floor maisonette, UPVC double glazing, private rear garden

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Harrietsham £110,000

Two bedroom park home, bottled gas central heating, UPVC double glazing,

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Maidstone £99,995

2 bed ground floor maisonette. Requires some refurbishment. communal garden.

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Maidstone £99,950

1 bedroom house with lounge, open plan kitchen and bathroom. Double glazing.

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 • Fitted Kitchen & Bathroom

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 • Central Heating • Double Glazed

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KINGSWOOD £184,950



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LENHAM £99,950



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 • Lounge/Dining Room • Fitted Kitchen

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 • Guide Price £230000 To £270000
 • Sitting Room • Family Room

MAIDSTONE £99,000



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Maidstone £1,100 PCM

MRL Bring this stunning, newly refurbished detached house set in an ideal location on the outskirts of Maidstone Town Centre. The accommodation comprises of 4 Double bedrooms, New bathroom, New Cloakroom, New Fitted Kitchen. The rest of the house is decorated to a very high standard through out, including new carpets, new double glazing and new central heating through out. An internal Viewing is a must.



Maidstone £500 PCM

MRL are delighted to bring to the market this newly renovated one bedroomed property. The property has a Lounge/Diner and Kitchen with Fitted Gas Hob and Electric oven, Washer/Dryer. Stairs to the first floor leading to Double Bedroom with fitted carpet and Ensuite Shower Room. Available Now.



Walderslade £650 PCM

MRL are pleased to offer this modern, unfurnished, 3 bed house situated in Walderslade, that overlooks a golf course and health club situated in quiet location. Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, NO DSS, NO PETS.



Loose £850 PCM

Semi detached house in sought after Loose. Newly decorated throughout. Lounge/diner, fitted kitchen with washing machine, fridge/freezer, electric cooker, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower. Garden, garage and driveway for 3 cars Gas heating. Available Now. UNFURNISHED



Maidstone £1,700 PCM

MRL offer this attractive Semi detached converted oast house with a wealth of accommodation. Set in the rural countryside on the outskirts of Maidstone and is still with in easy access of the main line train stations and M20 Motorway. The property is available now for viewing.



Boughton £600 PCM

MRL are delighted to be able to bring to the rental market this BRAND NEW 2 bedroomed apartments in a newly built development. It boasts of 1 double, single, a family bedroom with a power shower over the bath, open plan kitchen with all your mod cons which opens up to the lounge area. The property also comes with off street parking, set on the outskirts of Maidstone and Sutton Valence.



Maidstone £725 PCM

MRL are pleased to be able to offer this two bedroom house to the rental market. The accommodation comprises large kitchen, lounge and ground floor cloakroom. On the first floor there is the master bedroom with en-suite shower room and a further bedroom and family bathroom. The property also benefits from gas central heating, parking and a garden. The property is available for immediate occupation.



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- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
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- 3 Bed Semi Detached Family Home
- Garage, ORP, Conservatory
- Ensuite to Master Bedroom
- Corner Plot

Maidstone £249,995



- 3-4 Bedroom Family House
- Beautiful Garden
- Conservatory, No Chain
- Ample Off Road Parking

Maidstone £325,000



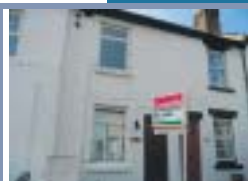
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- Mature, Established Gardens

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- Warden Assisted

Maidstone OIEO £110,000



- 2 bedroom mid terraced house
- 3 floors, 2 double bedrooms
- Lounge and kitchen/diner
- Double chambered cellar

Maidstone £220,000



- 4 Bedroom Mid Terrace Character House
- Accommodation Over 4 Floors
- Cellar
- Sought After Location

Maidstone £219,995



- Superb 3-4 bedroom Townhouse
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Master En-suite, allocated parking
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- Modern Fitted Bathroom
- Conservatory, NO CHAIN
- Driveway and Garage

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£175,000

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Maidstone



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Aylesford



Offers in excess of £300,000

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Penenden Heath



Offers in excess of £350,000

Unique bungalow three bedrooms, en suite, lounge & dining room, kitchen and bathroom, gardens, atrium roof.

Mereworth



£390,000

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Boughton Monchelsea | Price: £350,000

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- Delightful Southerly Garden, Twin Driveways, Versatile Accommodation

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Barming | Price Range: £330,000 - £370,000

- 4 Bedroom Detached Family Residence In Exclusive Location
- 18ft L-Shaped Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lounge and Dining Room, Stunning Views To Rear

MAIDSTONE OFFICE | 01622 683737



Grove Green | Price Range: £300,000 - £330,000

- 4 Bedroom Family Home Being Offered With No Chain
- 2 Receptions, Ensuite, Ground Floor Cloakroom
- Conservatory, Popular Residential Location

BEARSTED OFFICE | 01622 730955



Maidstone | Price Range: £295,000 - £345,000

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- Kitchen, Utility Room, Bathroom and Shower Room
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Lodge Gate House Aylesford

This recently renovated 17th Century Lodge House is situated on the edge of Cobtree Manor golf course and the village of Aylesford, but within easy reach of M2 and M20 motorways. The accommodation comprises a lounge, fully fitted kitchen and bathroom to the ground floor and two spacious bedrooms on the first floor. G.F.C.H., off road parking and to the rear of the property is a good sized garden.

£995pcm

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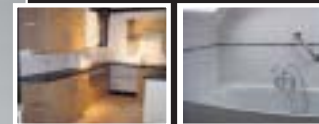


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Totally refurbished 1 bedroom split level flat. Open plan kitchen /diner fitted kitchen with oven & hob, extractor, fridge/freezer, plumbing for washing machine, bedroom, bathroom with vanity unit. Close to Maidstone East station and one minute to the main shopping area.

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- 2nd floor studio
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Lee Heights £595pcm



- 2 bedroom apartment on top floor
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Coral Park £595pcm



- Grnd floor flat in good location
- Parking space for one car
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with power shower

Weaving Street £595pcm



- 1st floor, 2 bed detached flat
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- Wooden flooring

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- Allocated parking, carpets

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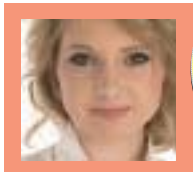
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WOMEN seeking men

HEY! OVER HERE!

21yr old outgoing, friendly female with a nice smile, looking for that special guy who will treat me right. Box 893721 **2**

A VERY BUBBLY PERSON

Very shy young lady, 24, brown hair and blue eyes, seeks caring and outgoing man for good times and socialising. Box 452300 **2**

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU BABY

Caring and honest lady, 25, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for a sweet, caring and respectful non-smoking man, 25-35, for love, friendship and LTR. Box 879522 **2**

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5'12, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **1**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...

Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5'11, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **2**

DESTINY CALLING

Hello all I'm 28, 5'15, dark hair, blue-green eyes, likes going out, the cinema, the gym, looking for LTR with a love, caring male. Box 452305 **2**

ME AND YOU

Medium build girl, 28, brown hair, green eyes, seeking honest guy who looks after number one, for lasting relationship. Box 451834 **1**

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756 **2**

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving lovely female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2, blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **1**

CUDDLY FEMALE

32, 5'9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 **1**

FIT FOR FUN

Petite, dark-haired girl, 33, 5'1t, fit, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047 **1**

HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **2**

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595 **1**

WISHFULLY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5'12, brown hair, slim build, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449915 **1**

GALLOP AHEAD!

Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5'15, slim build, blue eyes, I'm caring, non-smoker and have 4 children. I enjoy drives and horse riding and WLTM honest, reliable man. Box 451311 **1**

PERHAPS PERHAPS

Fun, bubbly, outgoing blonde, late 30s, down-to-earth, with GSOH, searching for tall, genuine fella, for fun, friendship and more? Box 451385 **1**

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YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901883 **2**

JOINED AT THE HIP

Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 **2**

FOR A RELATIONSHIP?

Shy but confident once-known female, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **2**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTM a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

FANCY A DRINK?

Hi I'm Judith, 40, small, blonde hair, blue eyes, love the sea and water-sports, cinema, animals; WLTM fun-loving guy for friendship and see what happens. Box 448107 **2**

WHERE LOVE TAKES US

Attractive woman with a great personality to go with, looking to meet a fit, tall, well-built black male, 35-55, for fun times and hopefully romance. Box 450505 **2**

A HEART FULL OF LOVE

Nice looking, genuine 41yr old mixed race female, likes cinema, walks, eating out, bowling, WLTM a genuine good natured white male, GSOH, for fun filled friendship/relationship. Box 450890 **2**

A FAIRY TALE ENDING

Easygoing blonde animal lover, 41, easy-going and tactile, enjoy eating out, cinema and pubs, looking for a loyal, caring and funny man, 35-45. Box 451079 **2**

ACTIVE TYPE

Lively, energetic and fun loving mum, 42, I'm 5'13, petite, pretty, blonde/brown hair/hazel eyes, WLTM mixed race/black gent, to share good times with. Box 451819 **2**

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Hello, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5'11, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possibly romance and fun times. Box 444796 **2**

I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY

Hello, I'm Karen, 42, dark brown hair, medium build, GSOH, looking for a man with no issues and GSOH who can enjoy life with me. Box 452204 **2**

COSY TIMES TOGETHER

Fun-loving female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, travelling and a nice evening cuddled up. Box 881545 **2**

A WARM HEART AND GSOH

Lovely bubbly mum, 43, 5'16, green eyes, dark hair, medium build, loves salsa dancing, new things, bowling, quiet nights in...looking for companionship and more. Box 880090 **2**

PROFESSIONAL

Fun bubbly sexy black female, 42, outgoing, positive, fun-loving, seeks charming male to have fun and enjoy life with. Box 451744 **2**

YOU NEVER KNOW

Kind, loving and caring mum, 43, 5'15, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? Box 446457 **1**

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY

Bubbly female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium/large build, enjoys singing, theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955 **2**

HEY BOYS

Single mum with two boys, 44, likes socialising and drinking, 60s and 70s music, seeks similar man for relationship. Box 452294 **2**

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 **2**

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5'18, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800 **2**

LOVING IT LARGE

Spiritual 44yr old female, enjoy gardening, cooking and walks on the beach, WLTM a warm, loving and caring male for friendship, maybe a LTR. Box 444803 **2**

A FINE ROMANCE

Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, reading, writing, seeks sincere male with GSOH, for LTR. Box 429071 **1**

MAID MARIAN!

Hi, I'm Marian, petite, blonde, green eyes, 46, looking for my Mr Right, to have fun with and enjoy lasting relationship with. Box 447986 **2**

NO FUSS!

Easy-going and down-to-earth 46yr old redhead, looking for male, 40-50, for an uncomplicated relationship. Box 879205 **2**

HAPPY TIMES

46yr old brunette, 5'11, young-at-heart, likes clubbing, pubbing and spending time with my family, looking for a nice man to fall in love again with. Box 452122 **2**

FANCY A FILM?

Hi, I'm Pam, 47, 5'11t, brown hair, hazel eyes, slim/ish, divorced, looking for a LTR with a nice and genuine man. No time-wasters please! Heathfield. Box 448626 **2**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Box 444366 **2**

BE MY GUY

Young 50s lady, slim, 5'14, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cooking, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest male. Box 449288 **1**

HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524 **2**

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 939562 **2**

CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5'14, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 417100 **2**

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LOVELY BUBBLY

Young looking, hard working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Box 883410 **2**

WHY WAIT?

Sincere female, 50, seeking clean shaven, reasonably good-looking man for a brighter future. Box 844882 **2**

YOU DONT KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL...

Young looking, hard working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Box 883410 **2**

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, MORE

Curvy, cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5'17, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTM loving male. Box 443642 **2**

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?

Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading, live music, looking to meet attractive, intelligent man for friendship and possible relationship. Box 448863 **2**

CUDDLY BUNDLE OF JOY

Loving caring homely lady, 54, honest, shy, likes gardening, long walks and more, looking for a fun-loving, passionate tactile man for nights out and more. Box 451967 **2**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5'14, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

PISCES OR CAPRICORN?

Starsuck lady, 59, 5'13, medium build, blonde/blue, likes swimming, holidays, the sea, WLTM tall man with good heart for love. Box 448240 **2**

MAKE ME LAUGH, MAKE ME YOURS

Good-humoured lady, 59, medium build, long dark hair, likes socialising, music, dancing and walking, meals in and out, WLTM similar male for love. Box 452450 **2**

MUSIC TO MY EARS

Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 419914 **2**

THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE

59yr old young-at-heart, loving woman, I am hoping to meet a kind-spirited guy who loves animals, going for walks and the romantic side of life. Box 900143 **2**

ONLY LOVE

Classy, intelligent, happy, slim, attractive, fit and active lady, 60, GSOH, enjoys travel, gardening etc. Looking for that special friend to share life with. Box 883791 **2**

NEVER TOO LATE

Hello, I'm Betty, 62, cuddly widow, 5'15, brown hair/brown eyes, GSOH and love life, seeking a like-minded gent for companionship and more. Box 452329 **2**

SOMEBODY TO LAUGH WITH...

Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5'13, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 **2**

SO SOMEONE TO SHARE LIFE WITH

Attractive retired lady, 63, loves swimming and cycling, cinema, eating out...seeks company with a great SOH, young-minded, to enjoy anything that happens. Box 451579 **2**

LOVE ME, LOVE MY DOG

Useful, intelligent, caring female, 62, young looking/active, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, uncomplicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first Box 434345 **1**

Women seeking women

ANY OFFERS?

Curvy female, 26, 5'19, blue eyes, likes reading, painting, walks and nights in/out, WLTM an honest, sincere and feminine female for a possible relationship. Box 452108 **2**

HOMELY SORT

Hello there, I'm looking for a kind, gentle partner, a homely woman, with GSOH. I'm female, 56 and enjoy cinema, reading, antiques, gardening, music. Box 451409 **1**

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THE WIT TO WOO

Handsome male, 37, 6'14, blond hair, blue eyes, looking to slowly rediscover the finer things in life. Heme Bay Box 424503 **1**

FULL MARKS

Hi I'm Andrew, 38, 6'13, dark hair, blue eyes, hardworking guy, friendly, tactile & outgoing, likes enjoying life, WLTM easygoing female for friendship/relationship. Box 443488 **1**

LIKE THEY DO IN THE MOVIES

Foreign guy here to make my life 21-45 for company, friendship and more. Box 451889 **1**

NIGHT OUT? NIGHT IN?

Easygoing male, 40, likes most things in life, seeks slim white female 21-45 for company, friendship and more. Box 451889 **1**

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 444750 **2**

LET ME MAKE YOU DINNER

Young looking 42 yr old with hazel puppy eyes, 3'17, looking for cosy nights in with romantic tactile lady, perhaps Christian like myself. Box 451969 **2**

NOW OR NEVER

Hi there, I'm a 42yr old male, 5'11t, medium build, dark hair. I like sports, theatre, music, films. Looking for like-minded lady. Box 451825 **2**

ROCK MY WORLD!

Northern guy (now in Eastbourne), 42, 5'11t, medium-build, likes live music, the outdoors, good food; seeking any rock chicks out there to strike a chord with. Box 452401 **2**

TRUE COMPANIONSHIP

Very loving and romantic man, dark hair, 5'16, slim-medium build, likes cinemas, music, holidays, cooking! Seeks similar lady to love and do things together. Box 452432 **2**

LONG-TERM THING

I'm Ian, caring, romantic, loyal guy, 44, 5'11t, slim/medium build, fair hair and blue eyes. GSOH. WLTM a lady 25-48 with similar nature. Hastings area Box 451334 **2**

DON'T THINK TWICE

Hi I'm Mick, 43, dark brown hair/eyes, N/S, likes cooking, walking & life in general, looking for someone to enjoy life with. Box 451087 **2**

BIG DEAL IN DEAL

Warm, tactile male, 42, 6'1t, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seeks like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 388967 **2**

FAMILY LIFE

Happy-go-lucky dad, 46, sporty, keeps in good shape, own place, looking for an honest person to get to know well, possibly for relationship. Box 452446 **2**

LIFE'S FOR SHARING

Hi ladies, my name is Carlos. I'm 45, looking for an honest and loving lady to share life with. Box 879325 **2**

MORE?

Down to earth & outgoing male, 47, seeking fun with a young lady who enjoys sports, staying active, travel, socialising, drinks and more. Box 451104 **2**

IN YOUR EYES

Blond, blue-eyed male, 46, 5'18, enjoys socialising, cinema, live alone in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship, more. Box 421664 **2**

MAKE YOUR OWN FATE

Honest placid man, 48, enjoys sport, socialising, having fun and good times, WLTM similar female with open mind to get to know. Box 452350 **2**

ADVENTURE AHEAD

Old-school rocker type, 52, likes music, hates football, looking for a silly crazy lady for fun and hopefully a LTR. Box 452357 **2**

MOVING FORWARDS

Divorced devoted dad, 53, 6'1t, brown hair, medium build

MOTORS NEWS



Roaring Jaguar rattles rivals with added value

AFTER years of hanging on by its claws, Jaguar has roared back with demand for the latest XF model leading to best in class second-hand values.

Industry valuation bible Glass's Guide reckons the mid-range Jag model will be worth 18 per cent more than an equivalent Audi in 12 months' time and nine per cent more in three years' time.

Glass's spokesman Jason King said: "The XF has made a very impressive entry into the segment and has shaken up the established German players."



Espace celebrating 25 years of MPV success

RENAULT sparked the people carrier or MPV revolution 25 years ago with the original Espace.

It was a marriage of plans by Renault for a grand touring saloon with a flexible seating layout and French aerospace firm Matra's proposals for an American style 'minivan' with bench seats.

Their effort spawned many MPV imitators and changed the face of the motor market. The Espace itself has evolved through four generations and celebrates 25 years this summer.



Nissan is cashing in on Qashqai functionality

NISSAN'S wisdom in opting out of the mainstream hatchback market and banking on the multi-functional Qashqai was proved last month.

The British-built crossover entered the UK new car top 10 for the first time (see below) moving 73 per cent more units than in May, 2008, and claiming more than six per cent of the market.

1) Ford Fiesta; 2) Ford Focus; 3) Vauxhall Corsa; 4) VW Golf; 5) Vauxhall Astra; 6) Peugeot 207; 7) Mini; 8) Ford Mondeo; 9) Nissan Qashqai; 10) Vauxhall Insignia.



DRIVING SALES: Toyota's new-look Avensis comes in saloon or Tourer (estate) versions with the Japanese giant's economical 'Optimal Drive' technology fitted as standard

Optimal Avensis' rakish style shows classy touch

THERE'S no hiding place in the family car sector today.

'Mondeo Class' contenders must battle on image and style as well as value, having seen a once huge market share hunted down by 4x4s, MPVs and executive class rivals.

So Toyota's latest Avensis gained a big hike in style and quality to add to past attributes – reliability, value and practicality. Sharp, aggressive new lines show how dated the previous car had become, while the hatchback option has been dropped to leave a straight choice between classy saloon and Tourer (estate) – Toyota reckons the latter will now take half of sales.

I can't argue with that after a week with a high-spec 2.0-litre T4 (£20,410 – Tourer prices from £15,760); the car is sharp-suited yet loses little in practicality and drives better than before, helped by an extended wheelbase and track within similar overall dimensions.

It is also economical thanks to the Japanese motor giant's 'Optimal Drive' engine technology, crucial to designing the brand's tiny IQ city car, but now filtering through to larger models through low friction components, lighter and more compact design elements and enhanced

ROAD TEST TOYOTA AVENSIS

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Driving appeal | ★★★★★ |
| Image | ★★★★★ |
| Space | ★★★★★ |
| Value | ★★★★★ |
| Running costs | ★★★★★ |
| Reliability | ★★★★★ |
| Green rating | ★★★★★ |

combustion, bringing better emissions and economy yet delivering more power and driving enjoyment.

With tougher times here, this mix of style and money-saving technology should help keep the Avensis high in customer satisfaction surveys, though not yet threaten German executive rivals. Nevertheless, the Toyota looks and feels upmarket with the Tourer highlighting the current trend for divergence between the roof line and rearmost window frames to deliver a racy rear end with excellent headroom. The cabin is gimmick free and passes the touch test for quality, but can seem character-less – the £600 optional panoramic roof fitted to our car is a cure.

The 150bhp 2.0-litre petrol fitted is responsive and refined and a slick six-speed manual shift allows an average of around 40mpg – unheard of at this capacity only a few years ago – but a new highly-rated 145bhp 1.8-litre sister is likely to be the preferred option for this fuel and the 2.0 and 2.2-litre diesels will surely dominate sales.

The Avensis chassis is set up more for ride comfort than tight handling, but can still be caught out by poorer surfaces.



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08 08 Peugeot 308 S HDi 110 5dr

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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FORD FOCUS



BRITAIN'S favourite car. Or is it? Some say it's number one through Ford's formidable market share. Maybe, but the Focus is great to drive, practical, well-made and blessed with good engines. For second-hand buyers there is a fantastic choice of power – including the rapid ST (pictured) – trim levels and body styles: a smart saloon and estate plus a coupé convertible. The Mark II's popularity and ordinary looks are a weakness though – enough for some buyers to look elsewhere.

STAR QUALITY

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Driving appeal | ★★★★★ |
| Looks and image | ★★★★★ |
| Space | ★★★★★ |
| Value | ★★★★★ |
| Running costs | ★★★★★ |
| Reliability | ★★★★★ |
| Quality | ★★★★★ |

VW GOLF



IT costs extra for a Golf, signalling the power of a more premium badge. Good diesels also keep used prices up, while the GTI hot hatch adds glamour across the range. Interior quality and ambience is top-notch too and the newly replaced Mark V was possibly the best drive in class. That said, the Golf suffers from fairly dull styling and buyers might be tempted by sexier and cheaper French rivals such as the Citroën C4 or Renault Megané.

STAR QUALITY

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Driving appeal | ★★★★★ |
| Looks and image | ★★★★★ |
| Space | ★★★★★ |
| Value | ★★★★★ |
| Running costs | ★★★★★ |
| Reliability | ★★★★★ |
| Quality | ★★★★★ |

VAUXHALL ASTRA



SUFFERS like the Focus from being a common sight, thanks to its lofty new top 10 sales position. But nobody could accuse the Astra of being dreary looking; Renault Megane aside, it is still the most sharply styled family hatchback on sale. Vauxhall has also differentiated between the rakish three-door model, dubbed the Sport Hatch, and the five-door workhorse. There is a longer wheelbase estate too. Engine options, including impressive Fiat-derived diesels, are among the sector's best.

STAR QUALITY

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Driving appeal | ★★★★★ |
| Looks and image | ★★★★★ |
| Space | ★★★★★ |
| Value | ★★★★★ |
| Running costs | ★★★★★ |
| Reliability | ★★★★★ |
| Quality | ★★★★★ |

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| 08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES | £9995 |
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| 06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES | £7995 |
| 06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR PANTHER BLACK 11000 MILES | £6995 |
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| 06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 21000 MILES | £6995 |
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| 07 56 NEW CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES | £7995 |
| 06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES | £5995 |
| 06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES | £6495 |
| 06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 8000 MILES | £6495 |
| 06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE AUTO PAS 3DR STAR SILVER 11000 MILES | £4995 |
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| 07 56 CHEVROLET TACUMA 2-0 CDX AUTO PAS AIR MET BLUE 7000 MILES | £4995 |
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- HR, RECRUITMENT
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- IT, INTERNET, TELECOMS
- INSURANCE, BANKING, FINANCE
- LEGAL
- LEISURE, TOURISM, TRAVEL
- MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
- MARKETING, ADVERTISING
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- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
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Senior & General Appointments 41-44

Public Notice 44

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 Part or full time, 18+
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www.goldchasers.co.uk

ST WERBURGH MEDICAL PRACTICE
 98 Bells Lane, Hoo, Rochester, Kent, ME3 9HU
 Tel: 01634 250523
PART-TIME EXPERIENCED DISPENSER WITH RECEPTIONIST SKILLS REQUIRED
 GP Dispensing Practice 20 hours per week Mon-Fri, NVQ level 2 qualification in dispensing essential. Must be able to work without supervision and have own transport.
 Must be willing to cover holidays and sickness.
 Closing date: 19 June 2009
 Contact: Mrs Julie Allen – Julie.allen@nhs.net

Alzheimer's & Dementia SUPPORT SERVICES

Registered Charity Number 1024385

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

£30,000-£32,000p.a. (depending on experience), plus essential car users allowance

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services (ADSS) seek a CEO to succeed the current post holder who is retiring. ADSS an independent charity, is the lead provider of practical and emotional support to people with dementia and their carers' in North West Kent and is well regarded by those who use the service and its funders.

The role is wide ranging and requires an understanding of dementia and its impact on individuals and their families. You will need a sound knowledge of charity and employment law and financial management, an ability to lead a dedicated team with a commitment to drive the charity forward.

This is a full time post 37 hours per week with some unsocial hours.
 Start date Oct/Nov 2009

To request a postal application pack either
Tel: 01 474 533990 or email adminadss@btconnect.com by 19th June 2009

Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd,
 Head Office, Dale Road, Southfleet, Kent DA13 9NX

REGISTERED NURSES LEVEL 1

Required by the above company for a nursing home Near Canterbury. Full and Part Time positions available.

For details please contact:

Pauline Matthews, Manager – Tel 01227 458116
 Email: managerharbledown@njch.co.uk

ALSO REQUIRED – ASSISTANT MANAGER EASTFIELD RESIDENTIAL HOME, MAIDSTONE
 Minimum qualification NVQ1.11 with preferred experience in Dementia Care. Salary negotiable.

For details contact:

Tina Thomas – Mob 07707038230
 Email: Tina.Thomas@njch.co.uk



Benecare is looking for a FOSTERING MANAGER

with Developmental experience who can take our OFSTED Registered Fostering Agency into the next stage of our Strategic plan.

Based in Kent we now intend to take our service provision closer to London authorities and to adjacent counties.

Our new additional office will be based in Northern Kent / London Borders and it will be part of the successful candidates' job to help set this up.

For a full discussion of the role and expectations, terms, and generous performance reward provisions please contact **Steve Richmond** Managing Director On: Office **01892 740886** Mobile **07710 145802**



Public Rights Of Way Officer: Network Management

£20,262 - £30,219 per annum, pro rata
 (Salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfillment of required competencies)
22 hours per week

With over 6700km of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery and forward thinking, dynamic new initiatives. The Countryside Access Service is looking for a new officer to join them to deliver the day to day maintenance requirements for the network in the Dartford and Gravesham District.

You will respond to a wide variety of reported problems, received by letter, telephone and email; plan, tender and manage works by contractors and advise on the impact of planning proposal on the network.

The post carries a high-volume workload so will need to be able to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of technology. A team player with excellent inter-personal and communication skills, you will have a high level of motivation, a good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and excellent organisational skills.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call **0845 8247 904**. Please quote reference **ER/09/0048**.
 Closing date: Midday, 15th June 2009.



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 so neither are our people.

www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Join Kent's award-winning design studio

Designer/Visualiser Part-time/Full-time

An opportunity has arisen for a creative, self motivated team player who is able to work under pressure to deadline, to join our busy studio department.

You will be expected to have an eye-for-detail and produce innovative visual ideas for new and existing clients, along with having the speed and creative edge to design and produce quality finished artwork for our in-house marketing material and online products.

You will need the relevant mac experience with an in-depth knowledge of QuarkXPress, Photoshop and Illustrator. You will also be expected to be flexible within your working hours.

To apply for this position, please send your CV and covering letter, with two examples from your portfolio to:

Anna Harman, Studio Manager, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

Or email: anna.harman@kosmedia.co.uk



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 Previous Experience and References Essential

Immediate Starts for Suitable Candidates

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Require

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Supervising a small team of engineers within major customer sites with critical needs in London and Home Counties. Technically excellent and able to communicate such, to service all works on Close Control, Small Chillers VRV and Split Air Conditioning.

The role requires an experienced Supervisor with 5 years or more within a similar role, and possesses plenty of initiative, is motivated and shows positive people and team leadership qualities. Planning jobs, working within profitability targets for PPM works and within budgetary controls for tools, parts and materials. Attending site meetings and dealing with both praise and problems and recommending and actioning effective solutions. Training, coaching and discipline. Making good use of resources, documents and reporting systems. Good Package plus benefits.

Please apply for the full job description and application form. Contact Karen Leader resources@barrierac.com or telephone **01689 899445** in the strictest confidence.
www.barrierac.com

Closing date 26 June 09

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Programme Area Leader in Beauty

Ref: PAL01

Salary: £30,204- £33,935 per annum

We are looking to recruit an exceptional candidate to provide support to the Head of School on all Staffing, Student, Curriculum and Quality issues. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a significant level of competence in Teaching and Learning, have experience of action planning and have good negotiating/communication skills. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Foundation Programmes

Ref: P0567

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Health and Social Care

Ref: P0063

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the delivery of edexcel Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Media

Ref: P0354

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

The successful candidate will teach on Media programmes, providing programme management and curriculum tutorial support as required. A Degree or HND in a Media Discipline and a creative attitude coupled with excellent communication skills is essential. The post holder will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Animal Care

Ref: P0355

Salary: £20,700- £25,309 per annum

The primary role of the post holder will be to teach on and participate in the development of a range and levels of Animal Care courses. Courses are offered from Entry Level to Level Three. The Higher Diploma Environment and Land Based will start in September. A relevant qualification in Animal Care and previous experience is essential and the successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Equine experience would be welcomed, though not essential. Animal care is a vibrant department and all courses are popular and oversubscribed.

Lecturer in IT – Level 1

Ref: P0395

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus, especially at level 1 and including Functional Skills. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student.

Lecturer in IT – Level 2 and 3

Ref: P0366

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We wish to appoint a lecturer in Information Technology to teach across a range of BTEC and Diploma programmes to post 16 students at our Medway, Gillingham campus at level 2 and level 3. They must either have or be prepared to undergo training for a teaching qualification and be able to manage and coordinate a team to provide and develop a coherent programme of study suitable for these levels of student. They must also be prepared to teach Functional Skills at level 2.

Technician in Hair

Ref: P0296

Salary: £13,544 - £16,392 per annum

The ideal candidate will be able to provide technical support to staff and students and will be responsible for setting-up and providing classroom support. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

Technician in Building and Civil Engineering

Ref: P0149

Salary: £15,607 - £19,127 per annum

The primary role of the post holder will be to carry out technician duties, assist tutors and learners in all practical aspects of construction and perform other technician work across the school.

Closing date – Wednesday 17 June

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer



Due to continued success and expansion we have two immediate opportunities to join our friendly, dynamic and pro-active team.

BMS COMMISSIONING ENGINEER

The following are minimum pre-requisites :-

Been employed as a Commissioning Engineer with at least 3 years on site experience

Full certified Trend training (IQ2, IQ3, and 963)

Experience of commissioning networked BMS systems

Involves writing strategies, testing, pre-commissioning of software and control panels, commissioning completed installations and demonstration to the end user. Ability to trouble shoot, fault find and modify control panels is a must.

PROJECTS MANAGER

The following are minimum pre-requisites :-

Been employed as a Projects Manager with at least 3 years relevant experience

Able to coordinate and manage site installation activities including sub-contractors

Experience of networked BMS systems

Ability to manage all aspects of a project including budget and cost control reporting to Director level

Both roles require travel throughout the South East, a good grounding in electronics and/or electrical installation with a working knowledge of wiring regulations and health & safety.

You will be highly motivated and flexible with a positive attitude and the ability to work on own initiative, a clean driving license and CSC card.

CV's can be emailed to recruitment@safeandsoundcontrols.com or posted to

Unit 22 Chislet Close, Lakesview International Business Park, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4LB

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

BASED FAVERSHAM

Executive Assistant – Development & Marketing

£18,937 - £23,473 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK

As part of a dynamic and driven team, your role will be central to the development process: preparing, producing, proof-reading and collating tender documentation and presentations. You will also gather information, coordinate tender timetables and create and manage a development database. You will be involved in marketing KCA by helping produce and coordinate marketing activity, managing the sign-off process and helping with invoicing.

You will also provide general support: drafting and producing a wide range of correspondence, arranging meetings, managing diaries, maintaining files and records, managing messages and acting as the first point of contact to all callers and visitors to the team.

To thrive in this role you will need exceptional written and verbal communication skills and the ability to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint to create well set-out and engaging documents and presentations. Attention to detail, excellent proof-reading ability and good time and deadline management are essential. You will possess strong interpersonal and influencing skills, be flexible, proactive and forward-thinking, creative about gaining information, professional and remain calm under pressure. Ref: 522.

Should you wish to discuss the role informally, please call Karen Tyrell, Assistant Director of Development on 01795 590635 on Mon/Tue/Wed during weeks commencing 1 and 8 June.

Database/Administrative Assistant – Human Resources

£16,663 - £18,937 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK

This new post has been created to make maximum use of our HR database at a time of continued organisational expansion. The role offers you the opportunity to become the departmental 'expert' in all matters relating to the database ('Insight' from Select Software) and ensure that it plays a full part in providing an efficient service to both our internal customers and the commissioners of our services. In addition to the input of data, you will regularly generate reports and audit the system for accuracy. You will also provide administrative services to the HR team (e.g. filing, typing and photocopying) particularly during peak recruitment periods.

You will need to be a perfectionist by nature in order to ensure data accuracy and have a positive solution focused outlook to work. In addition to excellent general IT skills, you will need to have substantial experience in at least one database application, preferably with a qualification related to database work. Formal training on our database will be provided as part of your induction. Ref: 575.

Should you wish to discuss the role informally, please call Peter Gallagher, Director of Human Resources & Estates on 01795 590635 between 9.00am and 12.00pm on 2, 5 or 8 June.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk. Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote the appropriate reference number.

Closing date: Monday 15 June.

Interview date: Tuesday 30 June.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



DOVER COLLEGE

Co-educational Day and Boarding School

Required for September 2009

EFL

Part time or Full time

Applications are invited from suitably qualified EFL specialists to join the International Department at Dover College

Applications, with further details of the post are available from; Mrs Debra Kilvington, PA to Headmaster. Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover. Kent. CT17 9RH

Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201

Email: hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk

www.dovercollege.org.uk

Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Dover College: Registered Charity Number 307856

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The introduction of the Government backed scrappage scheme has been a tremendous success here at FG Barnes (Maidstone) who is part of the Barnes Group, a family owned motor dealer group based in South East. We are now looking for experienced sales professionals to join our busy sales team.

As part of the Vauxhall & Chevrolet Dealer network committed to quality through innovation we offer an attractive salary structure, exciting career opportunities and a secure future. If you are ambitious and want to join a retailer aspiring to become the market leader in the area through customer satisfaction, then please write to us with your career history and current salary including bonus and benefit details to: General Manager, FG Barnes (Maidstone) Ltd, Sutton Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9YF.

Email: enquiries@fgbarnes.co.uk



Equal opportunities employer, please no agencies



with the voluntary and community sector

Website Coordinator

Working 3 days per week - £23,500 (pro rata) for a fixed term until May 2011. Based initially in Sittingbourne, with a high level of travel. We are looking for someone to visit voluntary organisations across Kent to support the development of the organisations websites. Must have broad website and IT experience.

Communications Coordinator

Working 2 days per week - £22,000 (pro rata) for a fixed term until May 2011. Based initially in Sittingbourne.

You will work with the website coordinator and the website development company to support the growth and development of the website. You will research and write content for the website which will be relevant to the VCS in Kent. You will need to have as a minimum, knowledge of web development and data base management. You will help develop Kent CAN's presence and profile in a variety of media platforms.

For an application pack, please email communications@kentcan.org or you may download a pack online by visiting the KentCAN website www.kentcan.org

For an informal chat about the role, call Keith Morris, Chief Executive on 01795 424333.

Application closing date: 22.06.09

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SCHOOL**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(A Foundation Technology College)

Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc

Tel: 01634 844809

Fax: 01634 818385

Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

EXAMINATION SECRETARY

Term Time only - 24 hours per week (hours/days to be agreed)

Some flexibility of actual working hours may be required

Salary: pro-rata on the NJC Pay Scale Grade D2 point 12-21 – (currently £14,847 - £18,882 fte)

A rewarding opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, organised and self-motivated person to provide primary support for our examinations officer. This will involve preparation of seating plans, organising exam materials and coordinating student entry requirements and exam board queries, and will therefore necessitate dealings with both internal and external bodies. Particularly during the busy primary examination periods during the year some flexibility in working times would be an advantage.

This role has a dual function which at other times during the year will require the post-holder to provide support for general admin as necessary.

Please send your letter of application & CV, together with Application Form (available on the school website) to: Mr S Rayner, Finance and Business Manager, to the above address.

Closing date: Friday 19th June 2009

The Thomas Aveling School is an equal opportunities employer

- committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant.



Gravesend Grammar School for Girls A Specialist Science and Language College

Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE

Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website: www.gsg.org.uk

email: enquiries@gsg.org.uk



Science

BUSINESS MANAGER

KSS Band 12 (£41,112-£48,152)

Required for September 2009

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed Business Manager to join the Senior Leadership Team and make a key strategic contribution to the continued development of the school.

The successful candidate will be highly motivated with superb interpersonal skills who can take the initiative and motivate others. You will also need to have a high level of experience in administration, financial management, project management and team leadership. Experience of working in education would be an advantage.

By 2010 the school will have undergone major redevelopment as part of the 'Building Schools for the Future' initiative and we would expect you to take a very 'hands on' role in this important project.

The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development. Academic standards are exceptionally high (Ofsted 2008) and the School has acquired Investor in People and Careers status. We were identified as one of the particularly successful schools in the HMI Chief Inspector's Report for 2002-03 and we have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004, adding a second specialism in Languages in April 2009.

We welcome informal visits and would be proud to show you around our successful school. To arrange this please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Maureen Tong-Ralphs on 01474 352896.

To request an application pack please contact Mrs Maureen Tong-Ralphs, PA to the Headteacher. Completed forms should be returned by **Monday 22nd June 2009** to Mrs Wilson, Headteacher.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

www.gsg.org.uk

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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to
appoint an outstanding individual in the following area

Lecturer in Motor Vehicle

Ref: P0649

Salary: £25,895 - £29,622 per annum

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and dynamic individual to teach on a range of Motor Vehicle courses. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within the Motor Vehicle Engineering Industry. MidKent College's highly successful Motor Vehicle department is looking for an interactive team member. The ideal candidate will hold a HNC in a related field and either possess or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. We are particularly interested in an individual that has the passion to motivate our learners within their chosen subject.

For an informal discussion about this role please call Simon Foot, Head of School on 01622 625864.

Closing date: Friday 26 June

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hr answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer



Career Opportunities



Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Coordinator Early Years | 09/18 |
| 37 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 per annum | |
| Coordinator Music and Music Technology Level 3 | CO22 |
| 37 hours per week, salary starting at £27,209 per annum | |
| Lecturer Health & Social Care | L90 |
| 18.5 hours per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum | |
| Lecturer Science | 09/15 |
| 37 or 2 x 18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum (pro rata for part time posts) | |
| Lecturer Graphic Design | 09/21 |
| 37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum | |
| Work Experience Placement Officer | 09/16 |
| 37 hours per week, 38 weeks per year term time, salary starting at £16,914 pro rata per annum. One year fixed term post | |
| Central Administrator | 09/12 |
| 27 hours per week, salary starting at £15,085 pro rata per annum | |
| Apprenticeship Administration Assistant – European Social Fund and Projects | 09/19 |
| Full time Apprenticeship, salary £95 per week. Fixed Term post for the duration of the Apprenticeship | |
| Night Cleaners | 09/22 |
| 5 posts, 20 hours each per week, salary £6.42 per hour. Temporary posts to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months | |

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 22th June 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme



CLICK

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



CALL

01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



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CRICKET

BY TOM HOWARD

Kent League Division One

The Mote 1st XI v Sandwich 1st XI

A SOLID all-round batting performance gave Sandwich Town a narrow two-wicket victory on the penultimate ball against The Mote on Saturday.

Both sides gave their all in the match, which included a stunning knock from The Mote's James Hodgson, who hit an unbeaten 147 with the bat. Sandwich elected to field after winning the toss, but were soon regretting their decision despite claiming the two early wickets of Umesh Valjee and Tom Harvey with just 29 runs on the board.

Hodgson proved to be the thorn in Sandwich's side as he hit a relentless 147, scoring the majority of The Motes' runs, as they went on to score 261 from their allotted 50 overs. Daniel Thirkell's knock of 57 towards the end of the innings, helped The Mote set a large total for Sandwich to chase.

Sandwich's reply was steady with Craig Snell (52), David Scoggins (71) and Vishaul Singh (78) all notching up half-centuries.

The Motes' bowlers did a better job than their Sandwich counterparts but it was not enough to prevent a defeat. Sandwich slowly crept up on The Mote's target and surpassed it with just one ball of the game remaining.

Mote captain Glen Aukett was the pick of the bowlers, finishing with figures of 3 for 84.

The Mote lose a thriller on penultimate ball



ON STRIKE: The Mote (batting) set an impressive total but were unable to bowl Sandwich out as they lost the game in the final over

SCOREBOARD

The Mote

| | Runs |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Umesh Valjee ct Lawrence b Spanton | 1 |
| Tom Harvey b Snell | 28 |
| James Hodgson not out | 147 |
| Daniel Thirkell ct Scarr b Bradley | 57 |
| Ed De Lucy ct Singh b Bradley | 11 |
| Matthew White not out | 6 |
| Laurence Waters did not bat | |
| Warren Jackson did not bat | |
| Glen Aukett did not bat | |
| Kym Daley did not bat | |
| Alex Fordham did not bat | |
| Extras (3lb 8w) | 11 |
| Total (4 wickets, 50 overs) | 261 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|--------------------|----|---|----|---|
| Craig Spanton | 15 | 1 | 71 | 1 |
| Jack Bradley | 14 | 1 | 77 | 2 |
| Craig Snell | 4 | 0 | 24 | 1 |
| Matthew van Poppel | 8 | 0 | 46 | 0 |
| Robert Goatham | 9 | 0 | 40 | 0 |

Sandwich Town

| | Runs |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Craig Snell ct Thirkell b Waters | 52 |
| David Scoggins c & b Aukett | 71 |
| Robert Goatham lbw b Waters | 3 |
| Vishaul Singh run out Harvey | 78 |
| Rhys Jones ct Valjee b Daley | 10 |
| David Scarr ct Fordham b Daley | 2 |
| James Bolt ct Valjee b Aukett | 16 |
| Gavin Lawrence not out | 4 |
| Craig Spanton ct Waters b Aukett | 4 |
| Matthew van Poppel not out | 4 |
| Jack Bradley did not bat | |
| Extras (8b 6lb 7w) | 21 |
| Total (8 wickets, 49.5 overs) | 265 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|-----------------|------|---|----|---|
| Glen Aukett | 14.5 | 0 | 84 | 3 |
| Kym Daley | 12 | 1 | 64 | 2 |
| Laurence Waters | 13 | 0 | 54 | 2 |
| James Hodgson | 8 | 0 | 34 | 0 |
| Tom Harvey | 2 | 0 | 15 | 0 |

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

Offham 1st XI v Macknade 1st XI

OFFHAM held on to secure a losing draw in a high scoring encounter in Division Five on Saturday.

Macknade showed their class with the bat as they notched up 256 from their 50 overs, with Kaylem Short top scoring with 79.

Offham needed a fast start if they wanted to clinch victory, but the home side could only muster 50 from their first three batsmen.

Offham kept fighting, but victory soon slipped through their hands. However, Macknade were unable to take the final three wickets leaving Offham with a losing draw.

Macknade

| | Runs |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Phil Rowcroft | b Watt 4 |
| Kaylem Short | ct Gittings b Razey 79 |
| Lee Rigden | ct Waitt b Razey 73 |
| Scott Davenport | ct Bell b Hallbrook 43 |
| Danny Haxton | b Brooker 1 |
| Andrew Machin | ct Waitt b Watt 16 |
| Steve Taylor | ct Waitt b Watt 12 |
| Vince Taylor | b Hallbrook 0 |
| James Jarrett | ct Waitt b Watt 13 |
| Jamie Rigden | not out 4 |
| Darryl Cook | not out 5 |
| Extras | (4b 1lb 1w) 6 |
| Total | (9 wickets, 50 overs) 256 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|------------------|------|---|----|---|
| Leonard Watt | 14.2 | 3 | 70 | 4 |
| Daniel Blakeburn | 8 | 2 | 32 | 0 |
| Simon Hallbrook | 6 | 0 | 63 | 2 |
| Mervyn Brooker | 14 | 5 | 49 | 1 |
| Graham Razey | 7.4 | 1 | 36 | 2 |

Offham

| | Runs |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Graham Razey | b Jarrett 7 |
| Tom Gittings | ct Machin b Jarrett 35 |
| Nathan Faulkes | b Rigden 8 |
| Ben Gittings | ct Cook b Rigden 42 |
| Leonard Watt | st Taylor b Cook 25 |
| Jason Watt | ct Cook b Rigden 1 |
| Lawrence Bell | not out 46 |
| Daniel Blakeburn | lbw b Short 10 |
| Mervyn Brooker | not out 11 |
| Simon Hallbrook | did not bat |
| Michael Gittings | did not bat |
| Extras | (1lb 2w) 3 |
| Total | (7 wickets, 50 overs) 188 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|---------------|----|---|----|---|
| Kaylem Short | 13 | 2 | 38 | 1 |
| James Jarrett | 15 | 2 | 56 | 2 |
| Jamie Rigden | 12 | 1 | 42 | 3 |
| Darryl Cook | 7 | 1 | 22 | 1 |
| Phil Rowcroft | 3 | 0 | 29 | 0 |

KENT FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1A

Wye 1st XI v Yalding 1st XI

YALDING's impressive six-man bowling attack proved pivotal in a narrow 27-run victory at Wye.

The visitors' tail rescued a slow starting innings with the bat, as Anthony Shephard (53) and Jumshad Haider (58) saw Yalding trickle to 205 for 8 after 46 overs.

Wye made a promising start as they attempted to chase down Yalding, but once the bowlers hit full flow, Wye hit trouble. Graham Makey and Andrew Robinson took seven wickets between them, as Wye were bowled out for just 178 with eight overs remaining.

Yalding

| | Runs |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shumshair Haider | b Edlin 14 |
| James Dugmore | ct Eve b Hoyle 4 |
| Graham Hutchins | ct Brooke b Hoyle 0 |
| Scott Walker | st Eve b Edlin 14 |
| Alistair Ratcliff | b Edlin 6 |
| James Fenn | ct Eve b Wise 21 |
| Anthony Shepherd | ct Dodd b Brooke 53 |
| Jumshad Haider | ct Dodd b Brooke 58 |
| Lee Frimston | not out 5 |
| Andrew Robinson | not out 3 |
| Graham Makey | did not bat |
| Extras | (8b 6lb 13w) 27 |
| Total | (8 wickets, 46 overs) 205 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|-----------------|----|---|----|---|
| Edward Hoyle | 12 | 2 | 39 | 2 |
| Wayne Edlin | 12 | 4 | 38 | 3 |
| Keith Secrett | 6 | 1 | 31 | 0 |
| Stuart Wise | 6 | 0 | 37 | 1 |
| Matt Barlow | 2 | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| Raj Mahadevaiah | 3 | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| Nick Brooke | 5 | 1 | 12 | 2 |

Wye

| | | Runs |
|-----------------|------------------------|------|
| David Parry | ct Dugmore b Makey | 20 |
| Nick Brooke | ct Walker b Robinson | 17 |
| Giles Starley | ct Dugmore b Makey | 12 |
| Raj Mahadevaiah | lbw b Dugmore | 16 |
| Stuart Wise | b Robinson | 43 |
| Nick Eve | ct Walker b Dugmore | 0 |
| Adam Dodd | lbw b Makey | 6 |
| Wayne Edlin | ct Ratcliff b Robinson | 23 |
| Edward Hoyle | b Robinson | 2 |
| Matt Barlow | ct Walker b Haider | 8 |
| Keith Secrett | not out | 3 |
| Extras | (10b 8lb 7w 3nb) | 28 |
| Total | (all out, 38.3 overs) | 178 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|------------------|-----|---|----|---|
| Jumshad Haider | 7.3 | 2 | 39 | 1 |
| James Fenn | 5 | 1 | 18 | 0 |
| Andrew Robinson | 9 | 0 | 39 | 4 |
| Graham Makey | 11 | 2 | 32 | 3 |
| Anthony Shephard | 2 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| James Dugmore | 4 | 0 | 23 | 2 |

KENT FEEDER LEAGUE WEST 1B

Leybourne 1st XI v Lamorbey Park 1st XI

MATTHEW Simmons top scored for Leybourne as they chased down Lamorbey Park's total to win by three wickets at the weekend.

With 196 to chase down, Leybourne knew their batsmen had to produce their best to stand any chance of victory. Simmons answered the call and hit a solid 68, before falling to the impressive James Barge.

Despite Barge claiming six wickets, Ashley Ulph and Tom Smith steered Leybourne to victory.

Lamorbey Park

| | Runs |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Praveen Chinthala | b Webb 2 |
| Tim Morgan | c & b Webb 4 |
| Nick Hardaker | b Rose 36 |
| Tipu Ali | lbw b Bray 11 |
| Lloyd Barnett | ct Webb b Bray 2 |
| Hasan Ahmed | ct Webb b Rose 4 |
| Joginder Singh | not out 51 |
| James Barge | ct Smith b Rose 18 |
| Robert Allen | ct Davies b Rose 10 |
| Rob Murray | b Bray 22 |
| Baldshish Bhatia | not out 7 |
| Extras | (15b 7lb 7w) 29 |
| Total | (9 wickets, 46 overs) 196 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|--------------|----|---|----|---|
| Matthew Webb | 12 | 3 | 41 | 1 |
| Richard Webb | 12 | 1 | 56 | 1 |
| Tom Bray | 9 | 3 | 39 | 3 |
| Alex Rose | 12 | 2 | 37 | 4 |
| David Lock | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Leybourne

| | | Runs |
|-----------------|------------------------------|------|
| Matthew Simmons |ct & b Barge | 68 |
| David Lock |ct Morgan b Barge | 16 |
| Ashley Ulph |ct Morgan b Bhatia | 26 |
| Tom Smith |b Barge | 44 |
| Gary Martin |b Barge | 3 |
| Bruce Candy |b Barge | 0 |
| Matthew Webb |not out | 9 |
| Darren Davies |b Barge | 1 |
| Alex Rose |not out | 0 |
| Tom Bray |did not bat | |
| Richard Webb |did not bat | |
| Extras |(18b 4lb 7w 3nb) | 32 |
| Total |(7 wickets, 28.5 overs) | 199 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|-------------------|-----|---|----|---|
| Rob Murray | 5 | 0 | 55 | 0 |
| James Barge | 10 | 2 | 35 | 6 |
| Praveen Chinthala | 6.5 | 0 | 39 | 0 |
| Balshish Bhatia | 4 | 0 | 24 | 1 |
| Joginder Singh | 3 | 0 | 24 | 0 |

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

Walmer 1st XI v Addington Village 1st XI

A CENTURY from Addington's James Tooze put the home side in the driving seat as they went on to beat Walmer by 164 runs.

Tooze's 104 helped Addington towards 248 from their 50 overs, leaving Walmer with a mountain to climb in order to save the game.

Only Andy Birkett offered a reply to Addington's score with a knock of 33, as the home side's bowlers ran riot. Walmer were eventually bowled out for just 84 after 30 overs. Dan Walton was the pick of the bowlers for Addington with figures of 4 for 19.

Addington Village

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------|------|
| | | Runs |
| Mark Rimmer | .ct Birkett b Cotton | 4 |
| James Tooze | .st Butler b Huntley | 104 |
| Joe Pigott | .lbw b Cowlishaw | 31 |
| Neil Scott | .ct Wilcox b Huntley | 35 |
| Duncan Brown | .ct Pearce b Cowlishaw | 1 |
| Mat Bruton | b Huntley | 22 |
| Ben Buet | .ct Cotton b Cowlishaw | 26 |
| James Fullagar | not out | 2 |
| Steve Merralls | did not bat | |
| Ross McDermott | not out | 4 |
| Dan Walton | did not bat | |

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----|
| Extras | (2b 7lb 7w 3nb) | 19 |
| Total | (7 wickets, 50 overs) | 248 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|-----------------|----|---|----|---|
| Barry Green | 8 | 0 | 24 | 0 |
| Andrew Cotton | 11 | 1 | 33 | 1 |
| Paul Butler | 3 | 0 | 23 | 0 |
| Peter Huntley | 14 | 0 | 88 | 3 |
| Edwin Cowlishaw | 14 | 0 | 70 | 3 |

Walmer

| | | Runs |
|-----------------|--------------|------|
| Joe Wilcox | b Bruton | 0 |
| Rod Cotton | b Walton | 3 |
| Stuart Butler | b Walton | 4 |
| Andy Birkett | b McDermott | 33 |
| Peter Morris | b Walton | 0 |
| Martin Pearce | c & b Walton | 14 |
| Andrew Cotton | lbw b Brown | 10 |
| Edwin Cowlishaw | b McDermott | 2 |
| Paul Butler | b Brown | 5 |
| Barry Green | b Brown | 0 |
| Peter Huntley | not out | 0 |

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|----|
| Extras | (4b 3lb 6w) | 13 |
| Total | (all out, 30 overs) | 84 |

Bowlers

| | O | M | R | W |
|----------------|----|---|----|---|
| Mat Bruton | 10 | 1 | 31 | 1 |
| Dan Walton | 13 | 3 | 19 | 4 |
| Ross McDermott | 5 | 0 | 22 | 2 |
| Duncan Brown | 2 | 0 | 5 | 3 |

Club let down by poor showing on field

Picture ADY KERRY



MIXED RESULTS: Medway & Maidstone men will have to work on their field events at the next British Athletic League meeting

MEDWAY & Maidstone had a week-end of mixed results in the opening round of the British Athletics League (BAL) at Abingdon on Sunday.

The men's squad, who compete in division three of the BAL, went into the season opener full of confidence and ready to take on the other seven teams in the division.

Despite a number of stand-out performances, Medway & Maidstone could only finish sixth out of the eight teams.

Crawley won the event with a combined team total of 308 points compared to Medway & Maidstone's 253.

The majority of the squad's points came from stunning performances in the 400m and the triple jump.

Luke Smallwood and Will Oyowe

ATHLETICS

won the two 400m races. Oyowe set the fastest time in the competition by completing the distance in 48.79 seconds, a full second faster than the rest of the field.

Darren Marsh and Dujon Brown shone in the two triple jump events as they blitzed the competition to win.

However, a lack of top performances in the other field events ultimately cost them a higher overall team finish.

Medway & Maidstone will be back in BAL action on July 4 for the second meeting at Bournemouth.

MOTORSPORT



READY TO GO Tim Reeves is eager to chase down TT glory in the Isle of Man today

Can Reeves cut it on Isle of Man TT return?

TIM Reeves will go in search of Isle of Man TT glory as he prepares for the final race on the notorious 37.7-mile road course today (Wednesday).

The Tenterden-born rider has had a mixed practice week ahead of the TT opening race.

A number of mechanical problems halted Reeves' progress in the early practice session, which limited the three-time sidcar world champion to a handful of laps.

Reeves and passenger Patrick Farrance were forced to repair their bike with lawn-mower parts bought from a Honda lawn-mower dealer on the island.

After recording the fourth fastest time during a practice session last Wednesday, Reeves knows he has the pace to eclipse last year's third place finish.

He said: "We're feeling good so, hopefully, that's the end of the problems and we can get some good laps in during the remaining sessions so we're 100 per cent ready."

Reeves and Farrance were due to take part in their first race on Saturday, but wet weather saw all races on island abandoned.

• Log on to www.yourmaidstone.co.uk for a full report on Reeves' first TT race on Monday.

Stones keen to profit from Smalling's debut

FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

MAIDSTONE United are due to hold talks with Premier League side Fulham following former defender Chris Smalling's first-team debut last month.

The former Stones defender, who joined the Premier League club on a three-year deal last summer, made his debut for the Cottagers against Everton on the final day of last season.

The 19-year-old joined Roy Hodgson's side without a fee on a 'gentleman's agreement', which stated that on his first-team debut, Maidstone would receive a settlement.

Bowden-Brown told Yourmaidstone: "We have not heard anything yet. We did the deal with Les Reed, the youth coach, at the time and he is no longer at the club. However, a possible youth partnership was mentioned and we are going to follow that up in the next two weeks."

The Stones have confirmed they will be playing their football at Ashford Town's Homelands Stadium after agreeing a three-year groundshare deal.

Stones chairman Bowden-Brown was

delighted to end the uncertainty surrounding the club's future and believes the deal will be beneficial.

He said: "I am relieved we have got something sorted. With the first-class facilities at the stadium and the possibility to loan out executive boxes, it should help out both us and Ashford."

A possible shuttle bus scheme to transport Stones fans to the Homelands is being considered.

Elsewhere at the club, striker Lloyd Blackman has turned down a new contract offer, according to joint-manager Lloyd Hume.

Blackman scored 11 goals for the Stones last season, as they finished 15th in the Ryman Premier League.

Hume admitted the contract offer given to Blackman was low due to a budget reduction for next season.

He said: "Lloyd is a great player and we would have loved to keep him, but we only have limited funds available to us. We offered him a new deal, but we were unable to meet Lloyd's requirements."

With forwards Meshach Nugent and James Pinnock agreeing new deals, Hume believes he will need one more striker to complete his strike-force for next season.

He added: "We will probably have to take a gamble on a striker, who has proved himself in the lower leagues."



Picture STEVE TIBRELL

RIISING STAR: Former defender Chris Smalling (pictured) playing for Maidstone United before his move to Premier League side Fulham last summer

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CLIP Dave Bartrum reflects on excellent start to the Touring Car Championship

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